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The Official Newspaper Of The City Of Romulus

December 23-29, 2004

Agreement nears for public works building cost

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

For years, the City of Romulus and the Metro Detroit Airport Authority have been in contention as to who should pay the $1.2 million in overrun costs for the Department of Public Works (DPW) building.

However the battle could be coming to a close at the beginning of next year, according to Mayor Allen Lambert.

"I'm pretty confident we'll get this done early next year," he said. "We're in negotiations with them (Airport Authority) right now and I think they want it done as quick as we do. I really believe they want to get this done."

The situation began in 1998 when the Airport Authority was buying up land in order to construct the fourth runway, now in operation. One of those properties was the city DPW building.

On Sept. 8, 1998 the Romulus City Council unanimously adopted a "Memorandum of Understanding with Wayne County for the construction and relocation of the Department of Public Works building," according to resolution 98-345.

William Oakley, the mayor at the time, and Edward McNamara, Wayne County chief executive officer both signed the memorandum on Oct. 8, 1998.

On Feb. 4, 1999 the Wayne County Commission resolved "that approval be, and is hereby, granted authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Wayne and the City of Romulus and further granting authorization to accept the sum of $300,000 from the City of Romulus for the purpose of constructing a new DPW for the City of Romulus at the Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport," according to resolution No. 99-30.

In addition to the $300,000 from Romulus, the infamous memorandum called for not more than $3,650,000 from the county for the construction of the project on county property. It also said the county entered into a contract to construct with Campbell Manix for an amount "not to exceed $3,950,000."

In 1999 when the county broke ground for the construction of the new DPW building on Northline Road, problems arose when they found the land contaminated and unusable for construction, according to Timothy Keyes, the economic development director for Romulus. He said because the problem was undetected before the project was under way there were cost overruns for the relocation of the project to a suitable site. There were now relocating, additional testing, sewer, utility and winter construction costs associated with the project.

See **Agreement**, page 3

Joyful toy full

Children of all ages enjoyed a visit from Santa Claus during the Toys For Tot presentation recently in Romulus (above). The annual charitable effort brought in enough donations of toys and bikes to line the floor of the Pride Center (above) and the cafeteria of the Romulus Powertrain plant. The annual charitable drive, put on by the U.S. Marine Corps, brought donations from elsewhere, too. Leigh Perry and Dick Petrilli from EDS presented Sgt. Michael Greene with a donation of $3,500.

Former councilman Russell Lambert dies

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The City of Romulus lost one of its biggest supporters and loved community members when Russell Lambert died last week of kidney complications. He was only 55 years old.

Mr. Lambert was born in 1949 and grew up in Romulus and graduated from Romulus High School in 1968. In 1969, joined the Navy where he served his country for four years, including time in Vietnam.

After leaving the service, he married his high school sweetheart Maria DeVita. They moved to California where he co-owned a successful construction company and built homes in the California mountains. During their time in California, the couple started a family and had three children: Eric, Joe and Julian.

By the mid-80s, the family moved back to Romulus where Mr. Lambert immediately became active in the community as a Little League coach and volunteer fireman.

When his brother, Alan, left his city council seat to become a Romulus Police Officer, Mr. Lambert continued the families' long tradition of serving on the city and became a city councilman. There, he became an outspoken leader against the hazardous deep injection well. He was a member of the Romulus City Council for two terms, from 1989 to 1993 and prided himself in being one of only three council members voting against the injection well, according to Alan Lambert.

Russell Lambert and wife, Maria

After his time on the board, he was appointed to the Romulus Building Authority and has served on that commission since then. He was also a member of the planning commission for the last three years.

"He was a great guy," said Alan Lambert. "He was mentor to me; very knowledgeable and I used to confide in him even at a young age. He's the reason I'm doing what I'm doing today. He taught me the right way to do things and I looked up to him."

Brothers Ruben and Robert and sister, Sandra, as well as his brother, Alan, now the mayor of the city, also survive him.

Alan Lambert wanted to thank all the people in Romulus for their outpouring of support and the overwhelming number of people who attended his brother's funeral.

"That shows what kind of man he was and what people thought of him," he said.

For home delivery of The Romulus Roman call 734-467-1900.

Community mourns death of Anita Parsons

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Anita Parsons—a former Van Buren Township employee—will be remembered for all that she brought to the township.

Mrs. Parsons, 67, died recently at Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor.

She lived in Belleville, where she raised three children—Carl, Brian and Karen. She also had two grandchildren—Jack and Robert.

Mrs. Parsons began her career as a Comprehensive Educational Training Accountant (CETA) Coordinator in Van Buren Township in 1974.

She then went on to work in the township water department before becoming the building department secretary, where she served as recording secretary for the planning commission and board of zoning Appeals.

After working for the township for more than 23 years, she retired in 1997.

Mrs. Parsons was a member of many organizations including: the Belleville Moose Lodge, the Ladies Auxiliary and the Van Buren Eagles. She was also a member at the Grace Lutheran Church in Redford.

Her co-workers from Van Buren Township said that Mrs. Parsons will be remembered for all the work she did for the AFSCME local 236 union, where she served as office steward and president.

"She was a strong union activist who attended many training seminars, leadership conferences and conventions to get where she was," said Denise Partridge, accounting clerk in the township treasurer's office. "Her greatest victory was her work with the 1982 MERC ruling. Management arbitrarily removed positions from the union and formed them into management positions. Anita filed all the proper paperwork and the judge ruled in our favor. Had it not been for her devotion and hard work, this local would not exist today."

"She was such a wonderfully warm person that we even devoted the union newsletter to her.

Partridge said that Mrs. Parsons brought professionalism to the job and was greatly admired and respected by builders, contractors, residents, commission members and elected officials.

Brenda Hawley, from the township planning and zoning department, said that Mrs. Parsons was her mentor.

"Words can't explain how wonderful Anita was," she said.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL
HELD DECEMBER 6, 2004 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ROMULUS CITY HALL, 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Debbie Romak.
Present: LeRoy Burcroff, William Crova, Charles Miller, Michael Prybyla, Debbie Romak, William Wadsworth.
Excused: Mayor Pro Tem Randolph Gear.
Administrative Officials in Attendance:
Alan Lambert, Mayor
Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
Pamela Morrison/Kersey, CMFA, Treasurer

1. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-473

2. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held November 22, 2004.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays -None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

3A. No Action Taken.

04-474

4. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Wadsworth to name the new D.P.W. Building at 12600 Wayne Road after former Mayor William M. Oakley.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Abstain: Miller.
Motion Carried.

4. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to accept the Chairman's Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays -None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-475

5A. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff to authorize payment of Invoice #04-23, the Conference of Western Wayne 2004/2005 Annual Membership Dues in the amount of $5,112.00.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-476

5B. Motion by Miller, supported by Crova to introduce Budget Amendment 04/05-9:

Fund/Dept. Account No.	Account Name	Current Budget	Amendment	Amended Budget
General Fund Expenditures				
101-3410-734.73-05	Fire Dept-Operating Supplies	21,376	(4,500)	16,876
1014130-741.79-15	Build & Grds-Fire Trailers	7,200	4,500	11,700

To transfer the amount needed to cover the costs for rent, delivery, anchoring, leveling, skirting and electrical hook up/installation of 2 mobile office traders from the Fire Department operating supplies line item to the Buildings & Grounds lease expense for the Firehouse trailers.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-477

5C. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Crova to adopt a resolution for continued participation in the Joint Management Committee of the Downriver Sewer System from January through December of 2005 which includes Carl Brooks as designated representative and Richard Suiter as alternate.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

6A 1. No Action Taken.

04-478

6A2. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Burcroff to concur with the recommendations of D.P.W. Director, Carl Brooks and grant request to vacate the entire alley abutting Lots 1 thru 52, Block 29 of the Junction Subdivision, from Rosewood Street to Grant Road.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-479

6A3. Motion by Crova, supported by Wadsworth to approve second reading and final adoption of Budget Amendment 04/05-8, to adjust FY05 budget appropriations introduced at the Council Meeting held November 22, 2004.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

04480

6A4. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Wadsworth to approve second reading and final adoption of Appendix A, Zoning Amendment 1.199, Article XXII, Section 22.01 thru 22.10, Planned Development Regulations.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-481

6C1. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Crova to concur with Attorney Barry Seifman and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into an agreement with Safety-Kleen for settlement of any outstanding claims the City may have had for payment of personal property taxes.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-482

10A1. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Burcroff to adopt a resolution thanking Delores Witzgall for years of service on the Cable Commission.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

12. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Prybyla to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing- Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

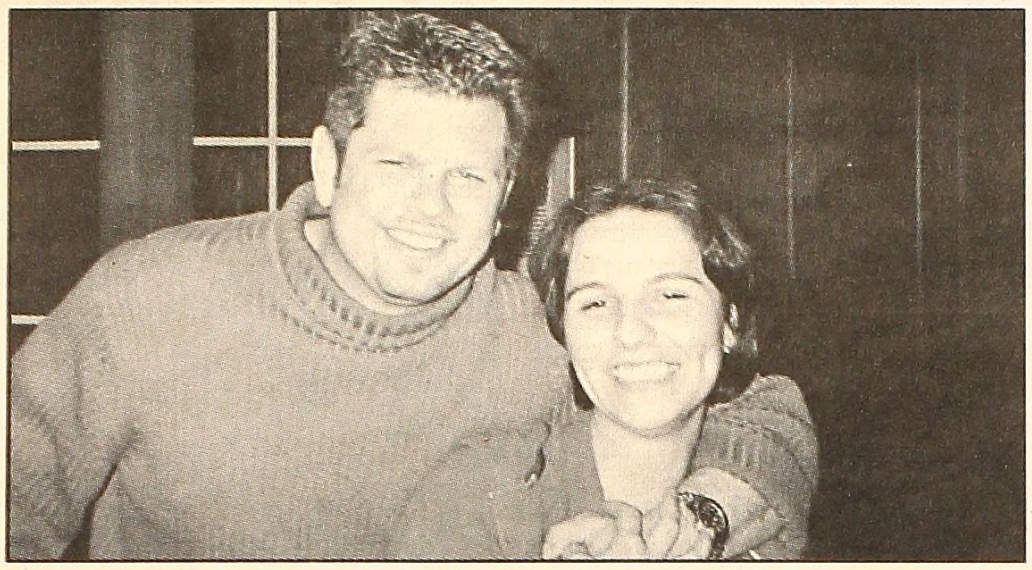
I, Linda R. Choate, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held December 6, 2004.

Linda R. Choate
City Clerk

Publish: December 23, 2004

Couple overcomes great lengths, distance for love

Andrea King
Staff Writer



Mike Sisler, of Belleville and Natasja Venter, originally from South Africa, were finally able to marry last weekend after their difficult and long journey to the altar.

Mike Sisler of Belleville received an early Christmas gift last weekend, and it was the only gift he truly wanted this year—to marry his fiancée, Natasja Venter.

But the journey wasn't easy or short. It started in South Africa.

In September 2002, Venter came to the U.S. to be an au'pair in Canton Township. The family for which she worked were friends of Sisler.

"My friends introduced us within the first month she was here, but it took about five months of suggesting and coaxing from them to take her out on a date," said Sisler.

He decided their first date would be snowmobiling, something that Venter has never done before.

"The whole trip was a wonderful experience of getting to know each other," said Sisler. "It was the first time that we really connected, and I knew instantly that she was the one for me. I fell in love."

But their relationship was soon tested when Venter had to return to her hometown of Rostenburg, South Africa. She was only in the U.S. on a temporary work visa. Before Venter left, though, Sisler said they had planned for him to visit her in South Africa; a visit that he said would bring a ring and a marriage proposal.

"Before she even left the U.S. I knew I wanted to marry her," he said. "She didn't know I was going to propose, but I knew that she was the only one I would ever want to be my wife."

After they were apart for three months, Sisler made the trip to South Africa in December 2003. It was his first trip to the country, the first time he ever needed a passport, and his first time meeting Venter's parents.

"It was great to be able to meet Natasja's parents, but at the same time, it was difficult to have personal time together," he said. "I wanted to propose, but I wanted it to be special."

Sisler proposed days later in Sabie, where Venter said "yes."

"She had no idea. She was completely surprised," he said.

But the real surprise came later when Venter tried to get back to the United States.

After Sisler returned home, Venter applied for a K1 fiancé Visa. It would allow her to get back to America to become married. The certificate stated that she must marry Sisler within a set period of time or leave the country.

Sisler said that he wasn't worried at that point because he knew they had a future together. They remained in contact through daily phone text-messages, Sunday phone calls, emails and letters.

Once the Visa paperwork was filed and processed, Venter had an interview at the U.S. Embassy in South Africa. She couldn't get a visa because she did not have her original birth certificate. The problem was it typically takes about 3-4 months to get one.

"I was extremely disappointed and anxious to see her again," said Sisler. "Natasja has always been a lot calmer than me so she didn't want to jump to any conclusions. She hoped for the best."

Thankfully, Venter's mom saved the day. She was able to get the birth certificate within a week and the visa shortly after.

The couple was reunited Nov. 8, after being apart for more than 10 months.

"I couldn't wait to pick her up that day," said Sisler. "And if her mom couldn't get the birth certificate as quickly as she did, we would have waited as long as it took."

On Sunday, Sisler and Venter took their vows of marriage at Mill Race Village in Northville in front of their friends, family and, most importantly, Venter's parents. The wedding was scheduled for December so that her parents could attend.

"Natasja's parents own their own business and in December most businesses in South Africa shut down for the month, so if we didn't have the wedding then, they wouldn't have been able to come," said Sisler.

Now that they are married, Sisler said that he feels complete relief and good fortune to have found his love from another country.

"There is no better woman in the world for me. It's like finding a needle in a stack of needles," he said. "I'm the luckiest man in the world."

Venter will have to apply for residency and, once it is granted, she will be able to travel between both countries with only a passport, but Sisler said they plan on staying in Belleville.

Sisler said that he is unsure what the future holds for the two of them, but he did say it will involve prospering as a couple, nurturing each other, and further down the road, having a family of their own.

Local parents depend on 'Michigan Military Moms'

Adrea King
Staff Writer

Capt. Carrie Bolender (right), who is an active army reserve in Fort Hood, TX., will not be able to make it home to Van Buren Township this Christmas, so her mom, Nan Keele, would like to send her a special message: I love you and I'm very proud of you.

This will be the first Christmas in 34 years that Nan Keele, of Van Buren Township, will not spend with her daughter, Capt. Carrie Bolender.

Bolender, like so many others, will remain active in her military post at Fort Hood, TX.

"It's hard because I'm here and she's there," said Keele. "The holidays are very special to our family and to not have one of them here is hard."

Bolender, a company commander in the army, graduated from Wayne Memorial High School in 1988. She immediately enlisted in the army.

"Our family has always been involved in the system—her dad served in the army and her brother is a part of the Van Buren Police Department. When she joined, she felt it was the right thing to do," said Keele.

Now, Bolender is an army reservist, which means she serves two weeks active duty along with one weekend a month, but is always available when needed. And because of the ongoing war, she is needed.

In January it will be one year that Capt. Bolender has been on active duty, 24-hours a day, training the soldiers who will fight the battle overseas. Keele said that when Bolender was activated, she went to babysit her grandchildren for about 6 months.

"I consider it lucky if she gets to leave base (Fort Hood) and go home for the day," said Keele.

Bolender is also blessed in other ways. She has two daughters, Callie- Joe and Hallie-Joe, a husband and family, and she has not yet been told that she must begin to serve in the Middle East. But, Keele said that it could happen at any given time.

"We are one of the more fortunate families because my daughter is still stateside and not there," she said. "However, it could happen at any moment that Carrie has to go to Iraq, so we live with that knowledge and fear. We are all very aware of it and acknowledge it."

Keele said that her daughter does not receive any information from the military as to when, if ever, she will have to go to the Middle East.

And with that in mind, Keele turns for support from the Michigan Military Moms.

"Thank God for the Michigan Military Moms," she said. "When you're a mom and your son or daughter is involved in the military, you need that support. We all hold up one another."

Michigan Military Moms was formed in July 2002 by Susan Klotz, along with eight other women. The support group, which meets twice a month, now has more than 200 members.

"The group brings a sense of feeling that you're with people who know what you're going through," said Klotz.

Keele joined about 2 years ago when her daughter was activated for the Persian Gulf War. She happened to see the group on TV and decided that it was the support she had been looking for.

"Susan (Klotz) is a phenomenal person to have founded this organization. It's a blessing to all the mothers," said Keele. "Things would be a lot harder for me if I didn't have this group."

And as the days go by that Keele has not seen her daughter, and randomly gets to talk to her, she is able to show her that she is thinking of her, thanks to the Michigan Military Moms holiday project. The ladies prepared gift packages by collecting donations of food and other necessities to fill more than 156 boxes that will be sent to soldiers throughout the world.

"During the holidays the purpose and the function of the group doesn't change, but the emotions do," said Klotz. "The holidays are acutely more painful for us because many of our children in the military are not allowed to come home for the holidays, so it's more painful to have them away when you think about how most other families are celebrating with their children and loved ones. These care packages are just a reminder of how much we love and miss them."

Keele said that she will have the opportunity to see her daughter again in January, but of course that could change at any time, she said.

"I have to believe what I believe and I believe in my country," added Keele, who is wearing a yellow-ribbon that supports troops, along with a t-shirt that states: My daughter wears combat boots. "I learned that you can have two emotions at one time, you can be heartbroken and proud. I want her to know that I love her, miss her and that I'm very proud of her."

Agreement

FROM PAGE 1

"The county is seeking an additional $1.2 million dollars from the City of Romulus to pay for the overrun costs," Keyes said. "The additional costs weren't caused by the city but by the airport trying to hurry the project along."

The county also agreed to deed the 10 acres along the new Vining Road extension as "the county's contribution of the land to the new DPW yard site when the facility is ready for occupancy," as stated in the memorandum. It is also stated, "the county will deed unencumbered fee simple title to a total of 10 buildable acres of land adjacent to the new DPW site."

According to Keyes, no deeds have been transferred. But hopefully by year end things will be straightened out.

"We want an understanding that the cost overruns are the Airport Authority's responsibility and we want a signed deed for the City of Romulus and DPW," Keyes said.

"The Wayne County Airport Authority is seeking title to the old Romulus DPW property and Romulus is seeking title to their new DPW property," said Michael Conway, director public affairs and environment for Detroit Metropolitan Airport. "Details are being worked out now and there is every reason to believe that reasonable people working together will reach a satisfactory resolution."

Brrrrreath taking

Belleville Lake Water-ski Club members recently participated in their 6th annual polar bear charity event. More than 20 club members, along with several members of the University of Michigan water ski team braved the winter water to generate funds for various area charities. Justin Juriga, Belleville ski club president, said that they are still collecting money in hopes to raise more than $4,000 that will be distributed to the Girlstown Foundation in Belleville and the Belleville area food closets. Juriga said that the funds will be donated just in time for Christmas.

Christian De Witt, the club vice-president, straps on his skis and prepares to hit the waves.

Justin Kollien (left) and Dan Garant (right) club jump master, don't mind 'bearing' the cold weather and water for charity during the recent polar bear water-ski event.

The Belleville Water Ski club mascot waves to the crowd as he rides through the Belleville Chamber of Commerce Christmas parade on skis.

Science students take honors at competition

Romulus High School students took the top three places in the recent University of Detroit Jesuit Science competition.

The bridge building competition required students to construct bridges with toothpicks on which judges then hung weights. The bridge supporting the heaviest weight was awarded top honors. This year, that award went to Joann Tieppo. Second place also went to a Romulus student, LaVar Mingo and Kate Appel captured third place honors.

According to physics teacher Lance Knudson, his students may have had an advantage in that one of the 15 stations at the Middle School Lab 2000 let them experiment and work on bridge building and design models while in seventh and eighth grade.

Middle school technology teacher Gary Banas recalled, "My students always liked to see how strong a bridge they could build when working on this project."

Malcome Rhodes and Ummer Ahmad were the seventh and eighth place winners in the bridge building competition.

Appel also finished second from a field of 52 in the egg drop competition.

Romulus High School Students Joann Tieppo, right, and LaVar Mingo, left, captured first and second place, respectively, from 31 entries at the recent University of Detroit Jesuit Science Competition. Physics teacher Lance Knudson admires Tieppo's winning design for a bridge and the awards his students brought back from the competition. Romulus student Kate Appel took third place and Malcome Rhodes and Ummer Ahmad took seventh and eighth places, respectively.

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OPINION

Real holiday 'spirits'

It's not uncommon for representatives from the business community to say they would like to help curb drunken driving.

Usually, that help amounts to little more than a quickly-spoken phrase in the final nanoseconds of a televised advertisement, though, or in a tiny phrase, such as 'please drink responsibly' that is all but lost in the image of an alcohol-filled bottle or glass, gleaming with condensation that looks like it dropped from the heavens.

That's why help like Project Safe Ride, sponsored by Central Distributors of Beer, the ABC Taxi Co., the City of Plymouth Police Department and several bars in the Plymouth and Livonia communities is such a welcome event.

It's a good collaboration between several different sectors and it will have a definite impact during the holiday season.

Here's how it works: ABC maintains a cab stand in downtown Plymouth. Those who need it to get safely home will receive a free cab ride – the costs are split by Central Distributors and the bars themselves. Since the bars are on the hook for a part of the cost, it will help them do their part to ensure that patrons don't overindulge, as well.

It was a pilot program last year, and it worked so well that it was brought back for an encore. Ideally, more and more restaurants and bars would take part in it. That, coupled with the ongoing You Drink, You Drive, You Lose campaign under way at most police departments throughout the state, will help ensure a safe holiday season.

It's nice to see companies providing a valuable service, rather than merely lip service.

With their eye on the future

Sometimes you have to wonder what goes through the minds of those who help guide commercial development.

A decision Monday night by the Westland City Council, which mirrored an earlier approval from the planning commission, for example, might cause residents to scratch their heads and ask: Why?

The approval concerned a new CVS drug store, which will be located on a vacant parcel of land at the corner of Cherry Hill and Newburgh roads – a busy intersection already, with an overburdened roadway and plenty of traffic.

There's a couple of reasons, though, this is actually a good idea.

That's right, even with the proliferation of these drug stores throughout the community, it makes sense.

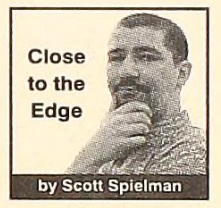
First of all, the city can't stop a developer from building on private property. If it meets the zoning, if it meets all the requirements, there's little they can do other than make suggestions and hope for the best.

Secondly, the construction of the drug store there may actually help the traffic situation. It's being planned smartly, with access to the parking lots that will eventually serve other developments nearby, for one thing. There will be limited curb cuts and directional arrows that will keep people from tying up traffic in an attempt to make a virtually impossible left-hand turn.

It will also help bring improvements to the road. City planners and other officials already recognize that the road is a problem. Cherry Hill, where it feeds into the intersection from the west, is only a two-lane road bisected by a railroad crossing just west of the Skateland facility. It's backed up at almost any time of day, not just during rush hour. The road needs to be widened, the signals improved. Unfortunately, those upgrades will be costly, and city officials do not – and should not – want to foot the bill. These are things that will only be accomplished by working with Wayne County and traffic improvement measures are always reactionary, not proactive. All the planning and

See **Future,** page 6

Happy to see holidays come, and go



The week before Christmas is always a weird one for me.

It's a time of the year when I feel like I should be slowing down, taking stock of my life and the year that just flew by and planning for the next one.

At the same time, there is always so much to get done that I feel like if I slow down for a few moments, I will be buried under the weight of non-purchased Christmas presents, empty cards and unanswered telephone messages.

The late Jack Wilcox was talking about the Plymouth Fall Festival when he said he was always happy to see it come and happy to see it go, but it sums up the holidays for me pretty well.

Every year, it seems to take me a little longer to get into the spirit of things and this year was no exception. Maybe other people feel the same way.

Fortunately for all of us, there are plenty of ways to catch this spirit, though.

You see it manifest itself everywhere. Here in Wayne, it got off to an early start with a committee of volunteers that got together to raise funds for a new nativity set. The Citizens to Acquire a Nativity Set (I just wrote out the name of it because I like the acronym, CANS) generated about $32,000 in donations in less than six months. That was inspiring in itself, but then I attended the dedication ceremony on a mild night a few weeks back. Something about standing in a large crowd in front of the nativity, singing Christmas songs, gave me goose bumps.

> *Something about standing in a large crowd in front of the nativity, singing Christmas songs, gave me goose bumps.*

And of course there's the annual Toys for Tots campaign, which many groups around the community get involved in. Friday afternoon, talking with people at the Ford plants here in Wayne, really helped hammer the spirit of the season home. Standing in the middle of a long aisle filled with toys, games and other things as everyone left, wishing each other a happy holiday time, could put a smile on anyone's face.

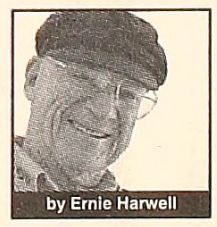
Later that night, at the Westland Friendship Center, the Goodfellows took the center stage. Volunteers lined the hallway there, waiting for their turn to pick up their lists and go 'shopping' from all the toys, clothing and other items piled up inside, products of another successful No Child Without a Christmas Drive.

Everyone feels a little better during the holidays. It's a time to open your hearts, wallets, pantries or what have you and do something nice for someone else, even if you don't know them.

It might take longer some years than it does during others, but it's no wonder I always catch the spirit, sooner or later. It's a good thing to see, a good thing to be a part of.

Here's hoping that the spirit stays with us all a long time.

Sleep, it's what you need



It may sound odd, but sleep is an important part of living an active, healthy life. However, studies are showing that parents and children are not getting enough sleep. And when we get into this time of the year, it's even easier to miss out on our sleep, what with all the parties and visiting and such.

Now some people may think that sleeping is a waste of time, but really it's as important to our well-being as a good diet and exercise. Lack of sleep can affect our moods, our minds and our bodies. Without it we can be cranky, not think clearly or perform as well.

So here are a few tips that I follow:

- Set a regular bed time each night
- Get into a routine to help you wind down
- Don't eat before going to sleep
- Give thanks for the good things that happened; forget about the others

Turn off that TV or that computer, and just go to sleep. You'll feel rested, recharged and more alert for the following day.

And remember, take care of your health before it's lonnggg gone!

Ernie Harwell, "the voice of the Detroit Tigers" for more than four decades, retired after 55 years behind a major league microphone. Today, at age 86, Ernie's days are filled with serving as a health and fitness advocate for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network, public appearances, writing, traveling and taking long walks with "Miss Lulu," his wife of more than 60 years. His latest book, a collection of his baseball columns titled "Life After Baseball," is available at local bookstores or by calling 1-800-245-5082.

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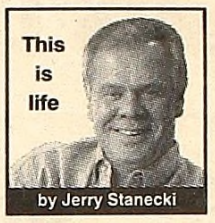
Take time to feed your spirit



"Do you bathe or take a shower?" I asked Celeste Morrison a friend and business associate.

"Showers usually. Baths maybe once or twice a month," she answered.

"That's it for the baths?"

"Yes, I usually don't have time," Celeste, said.

" Don't have or don't make or take time to enjoy a bath?"

"You're right, that's what I'm saying. And, I really enjoy a hot bath. Candles, music, bubbles, the whole works, it's wonderful."

She didn't know it, but I was trying to see if a gift I had in mind for her would be something that she'd enjoy.

"Why are you asking, are you going to write about this?'

Not wanting to tell her the real reason, or a lie, I said, yes, I was writing a column about it.

"I like talking with you about things like this," Celeste said. " You always make me start thinking."

I hung up and ordered a deluxe spa gift basket for her, loaded with special bath oils, salts, the works, all items used to pamper. I hoped she'd enjoy it, and, that it would also be an incentive to take the time for pleasure.

How many times a day do you say, " I don't have time?"

Be honest, then ask yourself this question: Is it because you really don't have time? Or, if it because you don't make the time for you?

My life has never been better, I've never been happier, yet, there are times I'm guilty of using every diversion I can think of to avoid doing something that pleases me and is also good for me. "I don't have time."

A lot of folks, especially baby-boomers, feel like you have to suffer before you can be rewarded. Or, that if you don't work to exhaustion, you don't deserve a reward or pleasure.

Others feel guilty if they take time for themselves, especially mothers raised with the old picture of being all to all, and, if she does something for herself, it's selfish.

Then there are the "victims." Those are the folks locked into the dreaded belief that they were put here to suffer and be victimized.

Taking care of self is far from being selfish. It is the key to being able to do more for others and feel good about you.

So, with that in mind, a suggestion.

This is the perfect time for the beginning of a new, happier and more peaceful life. Now is the time, to make time, to care for you. A nap, an hour of reading for pleasure, a meditation, music, a walk, a hot bath. It's not easy, but I know you can do it.

Each and every day, make time; take time, to feed your spirit. Insist, until it becomes internally terrific that nothing will stop you, shame you or guilt you out of doing it.

Never again use the excuse, "I don't have time." You deserve better.

Charter

FROM PAGE 5

politicking in the world will most likely not change that. That means, of course, that the road is unlikely to be improved until after the corner is developed. City officials have recognized that and are set to have as much input as they can on the project, working with the developer to make it as attractive a building as possible. The recently-constructed CVS at the corner of Wayne and Palmer roads was cited often, and is a laudable goal.

It might be hard to believe that the approval of a new drug store is a good thing for the city, and we might be as bemused as anyone to point it out. But that's the case here. It's a solid example of blending present developments with future needs.

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Fire officials urge caution during holidays

Meghan Chatham and
Andrea King
Staff Writers

As families celebrate the holidays this year, fire prevention experts are urging residents to exercise caution to help prevent a tragedy developing from tradition.

Part of the trouble, according to City of Northville Fire Chief James Allen, is the very nature of the decorations.

Each community, it seems, has its own terrible story of holiday rejoicing gone wrong. In Van Buren Township, for instance, Deputy Director Fire Chief Al Smolen remembers one incident in particular, in which a Christmas tree caught fire and started a serious household fire that destroyed the family room and all of the Christmas gifts.

"It's a tragic situation around the holidays when families lose not only their tree and presents, but part of their house as well," said Smolen. "They just have other things on their mind. Luckily, those families did not lose more."

Possibly the best-known incident in western Wayne County, however, is a 1990 fire in Canton Township in which a father and six children died after their Christmas tree caught fire. A report on the incident, which was investigated by the United States Fire Administration, attributed the fire to a dry Christmas tree that went up in flames after lights sparked the initial fire.

There are several simple steps that individuals can take to reduce the likelihood of a problem. For instance, it is important to keep natural Christmas trees watered to prevent them from drying out.

"A live Christmas tree that has not been watered can go up in flames in a matter of seconds," said Smolen. "If you have a natural Christmas tree, water it daily so that it does not become combustible."

Allen also recommended shaking the tree, or at least a branch, periodically to check its freshness. When the needles begin to fall off in large numbers, he said that it has dried out and become a fire hazard, and should be removed from the home as soon as possible.

Electric decorations, such as holiday lights, should be checked for damage. Once they are up, Allen recommended plugging them into a surge protector and avoiding overloaded circuits to prevent problems. When no one is around, people should unplug or otherwise shut down the power to electric decorations, he said. Pets should also be watched around all decorations, since they can inadvertently trigger problems through their curiosity by knocking over candles, chewing through wires, or otherwise compromising unmonitored decorations.

Candles, too, are frequently used as part of the holiday décor, but if left unattended, they can cause serious problems. Allen recalls an incident in Northville when a family returned from a family party and were confronted with a home that smelled of smoke, walls covered in peeling paint, and charred wire that had previously been an artificial Christmas tree.

To prevent such problems, he said that residents should avoid leaving candles unattended, make sure that they are in stable holders, and avoid placing them near combustible items, such as greenery, the Christmas tree, or other decorations.

Smolen said that many fires this time of year are due to heating systems and fireplaces that haven't been used in months and catch fire because the system has not been cleaned properly. He recommended that people avoid problems through some basic prevention, such as hiring a qualified professional to check out the heating system, cleaning out the chimney every year to remove the soot and the build up, and to ensure that there are working smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors on every level of the home.

Allen added that when people clean out their fireplace, they need to remember to set the ashes outside in a metal container, since the ashes will remain hot for a very long time and storing them in the home or garage is asking for problems, as is storing the embers in anything other than the appropriate metal container. He also stressed that people should not try to burn their Christmas tree or wrapping paper in a fireplace.

"It creates a really hot fire really fast," he said. One downdraft is all it would take to send the blaze into the room.

"Families should have a plan and practice it," he said. "Get out of the house, have a meeting place, call 911 and then the fire department will take it from there."

Smolen added that even if the homeowner thought that the fire could be contained with a fire extinguisher, using the extinguisher should be done in addition to—rather than instead of—calling in the fire department.

In the swim

As part of a special Discover SCUBA program in the Romulus Community Middle School, students Jayvon Hardawy, left, Westley Weinman and Stephen Covert took to the pool at Another World Diving Supply in Dearborn Heights with instructor Terrance Powell. Another World owner, Joey Stellini, a graduate of Romulus High School, donated the use of the diving facility and equipment for a special science unit for the Students. During the two-week unit, students learned about the Cayman Islands in science, social studies, math and reading classes. They also got to view a new IMAX production of the Coral Reefs that stressed environmental concerns.

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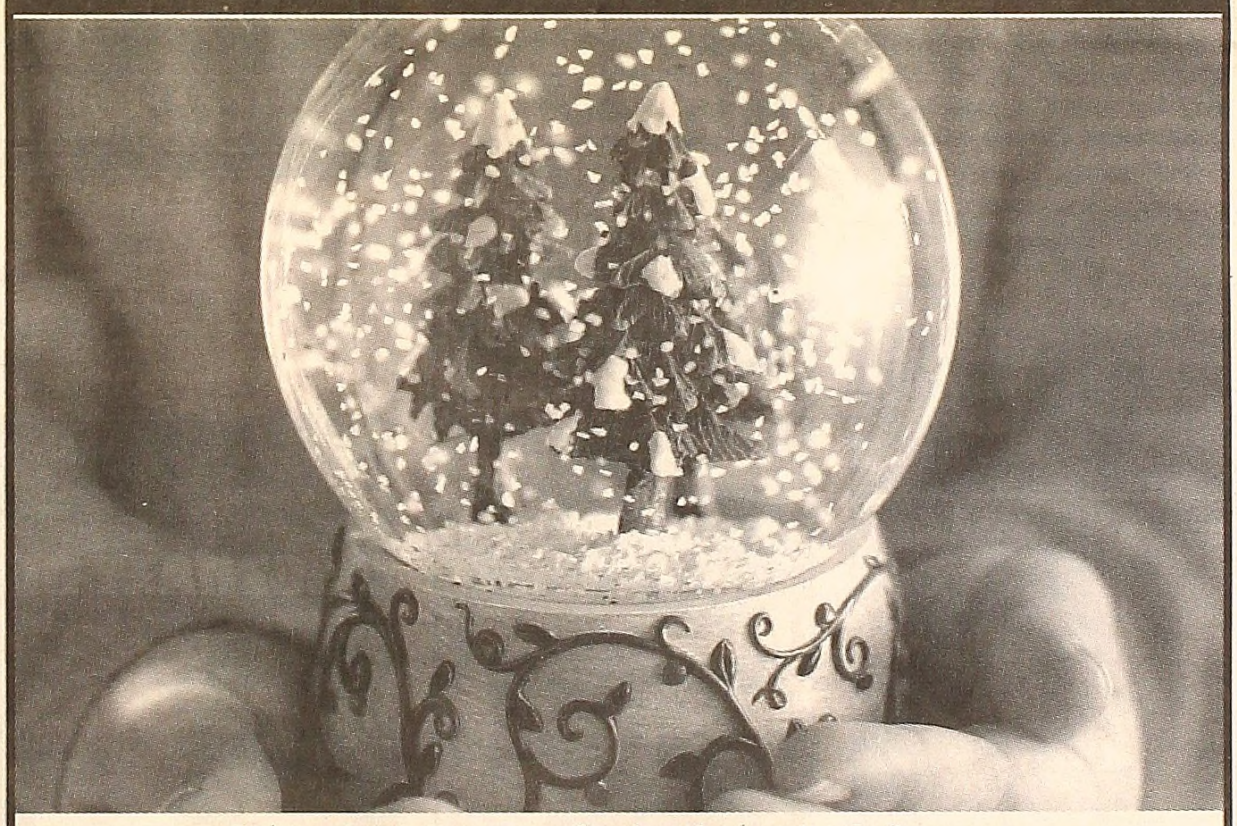

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On the air

Radio show from area homes provides funding for Children's Hospital research

John Counts
and Meghan Chatham
Staff Writers

Oldies rock 'n' roll station WOMC broadcast the Ridin' Home with Ryan program live from Cherry Hill Village in Canton Friday afternoon to promote the Christmas is for Kids charity event.

The event was sponsored by Curtis Building Co., one of the developers of Cherry Hill Village, as well as other projects in western Wayne County.

Two of the developer's model homes were festively decorated for the event, the Cherry Hill Village house in Canton and a house in Northville. Listeners of the oldies station were asked to stop by the houses to drop off donations.

Proceeds from the charity drive will go to the Children's Hospital of Michigan.

"The Christmas is for Kids fundraiser has been an institution at WOMC for years," said Steve Allan, program director for WOMC-FM. "We like to work with Children's Hospital because of all of the incredible work they do."

Allen said that the station never sets a goal for this sort of event, focusing instead on encouraging people to donate what they can.

"Whatever they give is great," he said

No figures on the amount of money generated or the number of visitors to the homes will be released until after the New Year.

Those who raised large sums for the charity drive stopped by the live broadcast, where they presented the checks to representatives of the hospital while on-air with DJs Tom Ryan and Mindy Markowitz.

Dylan Hwozdik, 12, was one of the youngest fundraiser of the day. The Milford resident donated $150 to the charity. He raised the money by selling 'Snowman Soup,' a special blend of hot chocolate he prepared himself.

"I wanted to do this because it was for a good cause," he said.

Cheryl Frost, owner of Serenity Day Spa in Northville, raised about $850 for the event.

"I thought this was a wonderful opportunity to help out the Children's Hospital," she said.

Janet Bloom, marketing and events director for the Northville Chamber of Commerce, was on hand with a $500 donation provided by the chamber of commerce and several chamber members.

"It's a worthy cause," said Bloom. "We had a great response from chamber members." She added that for many of them, part of the appeal was due to the longevity of the program.

Still, the program also helped benefit Northville. Bloom said that in return for their sponsorship, the city had the opportunity to cross-promote itself for visitors through information directing them into the city, where they could top off their day by completing their holiday shopping downtown.

Dr. Daniel Frattarelli, a doctor at the Children's Hospital of Michigan, said that the funds will help research why newborn babies stop breathing.

"About 80 percent of newborn babies will stop breathing. Sometimes it can be fatal. We want to find out why," he said.

Tom Ryan and Mindy Markowitz broadcast Ridin' Home with Ryan from the Canton home decorated for the holidays last week as a benefit for Children's Hospital.

Births

Morgan Adelle Evans

Morgan Adelle Evans

Ryan and Jaime Evans of Romulus became the parents of a daughter, Morgan Adelle Evans, born at 4:11 p.m. Nov. 16 at University of Michigan Hospital.

The new arrival weighed 9 pounds, 4 ounces at birth and was 22 inches long.

She will join a sister, Christa, 17 months old.

Maternal grandparents of the baby are Richard and Sandy Doherty of Canton Township.

The infant's paternal grandparents are Richard and Joyce Evans in Romulus.

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STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE
CITY OF ROMULUS
ORDINANCE NO. 1.199
AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE

An ordinance to amend the City of Romulus Zoning Ordinance, Appendix A, Article XXII as previously amended, to provide for procedures and criteria for an Industrial Planned Development Area.

THE CITY OF ROMULUS ORDAINS:

Section 1 Amend Article XXII, Section 22.01 thru 22.10 Planned Development Area Regulations to be amended as follows:

ARTICLE XXII: PLANNED DEVELOPMENT AREA REGULATIONS

Section 22.01. Statement of Purpose

The Planned Development Area (PDA) concept is intended to provide a degree of flexibility in the regulation of land development and the arrangement of uses. Through this option, more creative approaches to development can be utilized which take better advantage of the special characteristics of the land than would be possible through the strict enforcement of the Ordinance. The specific objectives of this article are to:

A. Encourage innovation in land use and variety in design, layout and type of structures constructed.

B. Achieve economy and efficiency in the use of land, natural resources, energy, and the provision of public services and utilities.

C. Permit flexibility in the placement, lot area and building type regulations, and combination of uses while assuring the application of sound site planning stan dards.

D. Encourage the provision of useful open space and more extensive landscaping.
E. Provide opportunities for improvements to public roads or facilities, pathways, and natural storm water systems.

F. Achieve consistent and coordinated site design (lighting, signs, building design, etc.), and high quality architectural design and materials.

G. Encourage the use, reuse, and improvement of existing sites.
H. Encourage the use and improvement of land where site conditions make devel opment under conventional zoning difficult and less desirable.

Section 22.02. General Requirements.

The Planned Development Area regulations that follow shall apply generally to the initiation and regulation of all Planned Development Area projects. Where there are conflicts between the PDA regulations herein and general zoning, subdivision or other regulations or requirements, the regulations of the PDA shall apply, unless the Council shall find, in the particular case and upon recommendation of the Planning Commission, that provisions herein do not serve public purpose to a degree at least equivalent to such general zoning, subdivision or other regulations or requirements.

A. **Ownership and Minimum Site Area.** Any person or persons having a benefi cial interest or right to obtain a beneficial interest in at least seven (7) acres of land in any District may apply for development as a PDA under the procedures for, and in compliance with, the standards of this Article.

B. **Public Utilities.** The PDA site shall be serviced by public sewer and water systems.
C. **Recognizable and Substantial Benefits.** The PDA application shall demon strate the project will result in recognizable and substantial benefits to the resi dents or users of the site, visitors to the site, adjacent neighbors, and the city overall that would not be available under the existing, underlying zoning classi fication. Benefits include but are not limited to:

1. preservation of natural resources and natural features
2. high quality architectural design and building materials
3. extensive landscaping
4. greenways to link to adjacent greenway corridors
5. transition areas from adjacent land uses
6. preservation of historical site features
7. unified access and circulation
8. improvements to the public road system to mitigate traffic impacts
9. extensive recreational amenities
10. extensive pathway system
11. coordinated site design elements such as lighting, signs, entranceways, and greenbelt design
12. use or enhancement of natural systems for storm water detention
13. coordinated development of multiple assembled small parcels
14. elimination of nonconforming situations
15. removal or renovation of blighted buildings or sites or clean-up of site contamination
16. consistency with the goals and objectives of the City of Romulus Master Plan

D. **Permitted Uses**

1. Only uses permitted in the RE, R-1A, R-1B, R-2, and RM C-1, CBD, and O-1 Districts and determined by the City Council to be suitable for the site and compatible with the surrounding area shall be permitted in a PDA located in the RE, R-1A, R-1B, R-2, RM Districts, Any uses listed as special uses in those districts shall be required to comply with special use approval criteria, although no additional review process is needed, other than PDA approval process.

2. Only uses permitted in the RC, O-1, OR, C-1, or CBD Districts and determined by the City Council to be suitable for the site and compatible with the surround ing area shall be permitted in a PDA located in the RC, OR, C-1, C-2 district. Any uses listed, as special uses in those districts shall be permitted provided they comply with specific special use criteria.

3. The City Council may also allow the following uses:

a. Fast food drive-through eating establishments, subject to the following regulations:

(1) The proposed PDA is located in an RC, C-1, or C-2 district.
(2) A maximum of two (2) fast food restaurants with a drive-through facility may be permitted in a PDA that includes a site plan with an aggregate gross floor area of 500,000 square feet or greater. One additional fast food restaurant with a drive-through facility may be permitted for each additional 250,000 square feet of gross floor area of the PDA.

(3) All buildings and other accessory elements including signage shall be designed to be consistent with the architecture of the overall development.

(4) The site shall be located no closer than four hundred fifty (450) feet from the intersection of the nearest planned right-of-way line of any two major or sec ondary thoroughfares as defined in the City of Romulus Master Plan.

(5) No site shall have direct access onto a major thoroughfare; all access shall be from collector streets, or an internal circulation road.

(6) No site shall be located within 500 feet of any residentially zoned or used prop erty.

(7) Within the front, side, or rear yard adjacent to any street, there shall be a land scaped planting area of not less than 25 feet in depth across the entire frontage which shall meet the standards of Section 4.32, The landscape planting area shall be continuous along any yard adjacent to any street except the first twenty feet on both sides of any access driveway pavement.

(8) Consumption of food on the premises in any location other than the dining area or patio as indicated on the approved site plan shall be prohibited.

b. Automobile service stations, subject to the following regulations:

(1) The proposed PDA is located in an RC, C-1, or C-2 district.
(2) A maximum of two (2) automobile service stations permitted in devel opments which include a site plan with an aggregate gross floor area of 500,000 square feet or greater.
(3) No automobile service station may have direct access onto a major thoroughfare. Access shall be from collector streets, or an internal cir culation road.
(4) No automobile service station shall be located within 500 feet of any residentially zoned or used property.
(5) Within the front, side, or rear yard adjacent to any street, there shall be a landscaped planting area of not less than 25 feet in which shall meet the standards of Section 4.32. The landscape planting area shall be continuous along any yard adjacent to any street except the first twenty feet on both sides of any access driveway pavement.
(6) All automobile service stations, including canopy structures, shall be designed as an integral element of the proposed PDA and to be consistent in character and style with the primary buildings on the site.
(7) Lighting will be directed and designed to prevent direct glare onto adjacent thoroughfares.
(8) Any proposed automobile service station shall be setback a minimum of 85 feet from any right-of-way. Any canopies shall be setback a min imum of 40 feet from any right-of-way.
(9) The sale, storage, or rental of new or used cars, trucks, trailers, and any other vehicles on the premises is prohibited.
(10) Automobile filling and service stations, particularly those which offer additional services, shall be designed in a manner which promotes pedestrian and vehicular safety.

C. Outdoor display of goods for sale at retail or discount retail, subject to the following regulations:

(1) The proposed PDA is located in an RC, C-1, or C-2 district.
(2) Permanent outdoor displays may be permitted for uses with a mini mum of 100,000 square feet located in developments which include a site plan for a multi-tenant shopping center and out parcels with an aggregate gross floor area of 500,000 square feet or greater.
(3) Temporary outdoor displays may be permitted for up to 30 days fol lowing administrative review by the Director of the Building Department or appointed designee.
(4) No goods shall be displayed in a manner that conflicts with pedestrian or vehicular circulation. A minimum five (5) foot clear path shall be maintained at all times around the perimeter of buildings for safe pedestrian circulation and compliance with barrier free standards.
(5) Outdoor storage of vehicles, equipment, or materials not directly available for sale or lease to the general public is strictly prohibited.

d. Arcades with amusement machines, subject to the following regula tions:

(1) The proposed PDA is located in an RC, C-1, or C-2 district.
(2) Arcades with amusement machines shall be within a cinema or theater lobby, restaurant or as an integral accessory use of a larger indoor recreational center.

Continued on page 10

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(3) The location, design, and operation of arcades with amusement machines shall not adversely affect the continued use, enjoyment, and development of adjacent properties. In considering this requirement, particular attention shall be focused on the adverse impact resulting from loitering on the premises.

4. In the O-1, M-1, M-2, MT-1 or MT-2 Districts, uses permitted in the O-1, M-1, M-2, MT-1 and MT-2 Districts shall be permitted provided they are determined by the City Council to be suitable for the site and compatible with the surrounding area. Any uses listed as special land uses in the O-1, M-1, M-2, MT-1 or MT-2 Districts shall be permitted provided they comply with special use criteria. Further, the following uses of foreign and domestic merchandise, described by the Foreign Trade Zone Act of 1934, as amended (19 USC § 81 et seq.), in a Foreign Trade Zone shall also be permitted where that use is consistent with the types of uses allowed in the underlying zoning district, provided they are determined by the City Council to be suitable for the site, and compatible with the surrounding area and comply with all applicable ordinance requirements.

a. Foreign and domestic merchandise lawfully brought into the Foreign Trade Zone may be stored, sold, exhibited, broken up, packaged, repackaged, assembled, distributed, sorted, graded, cleaned, mixed with foreign or domestic merchandise, or otherwise manipulated, or be manufactured unless otherwise provided, and be exported, destroyed or sent into a customs territory of the United States therefrom.

b. Uses permitted in the M-1, M-2, MT-1 and MT-2 and those Foreign Trade Zone uses listed above and uses permitted as special uses in the M-1, M- and MT-1, subject to the following regulations:

(1) Uses shall be located within the development to minimize the potential for truck and passenger vehicle conflicts.

(2) Warehousing, distribution, and other truck intensive operations shall have direct access onto a Class A road.

(3) Uses shall be designed to be compatible with the architecture of other uses within the development.

(4) Overhead doors and truck docks shall be designed as follows:
(a) Loading areas and truck docks shall be prohibited in any front yard or on any building side abutting a residential district or use.
(b) Loading operations shall not interfere with traffic on public streets or off-street parking.
(c) Loading areas and circulation routes shall be screened on all sides which abut any residential, commercial or office district by a wall, berm, fence or landscaping in accordance with Section 4.15.

(5) No outdoor storage of trucks, trailers, materials, equipment, or products shall be permitted without the express consent of the City Council and subject to the following conditions:

(a) Outdoor storage areas shall be located no closer than 150 feet from any street right-of-way.
(b) Outdoor storage areas shall comply with building setbacks of the dis trict for all other setback requirements.
(c) Outdoor storage areas shall be screened on all sides which abut any residential, commercial or office district by a wall or fence in accor dance with Section 4.15.
(d) No equipment, supplies, or material shall be stored above the height of the provided enclosure or screening.
(e) Access to the storage areas shall be provided for fire and emergency services.

(6) All operations shall be conducted within a fully enclosed building,

c. The Planning Commission may modify the standards listed in (1)-(5) above provided the applicant can demonstrate that the proposed modifications will be consistent with the intent of these standards.

E. **Density.** Within the R-1A, R-1B, and nonresidential Districts, the overall resi dential density shall not exceed an average of five (5) units per acre. The over all maximum density permitted in the RE and RM District shall not exceed the density regulations of that District

In computing the overall residential density of the PDA, the net site area excluding public and private road easements or right-of-way shall be used. The Planning Commission may consider a portion of non-residential use areas and areas containing desirable natural features, in computing the overall residential density of the PDA.

Within any R-1A or R-1 B zoned area, no more than sixty-five (65%) percent of the total inventory of dwelling units shall be attached, and no more than fifteen (15%) percent of these units shall be one (1) bedroom or efficiency apartments. Land area once used in computing density for one project or use area shall not be used again.

F. **Open Space**

At least twenty percent (20%) of that portion of the PDA devoted to residential development shall be open space. Common open space shall be exclusive of roads, schools, utility easements, and required yards. Such open space shall be in parcels not less than three (3) acres in size and in configuration and locations consistent with sound planning principles.

In PDAs containing residential development, at least fifty (50%) percent of the open space requirement shall be dedicated in common use by all residents for recreational purposes and shall not include stormwater detention or retention, wetlands and land under water. In RE, R-1A, R-1B, RM Districts, twenty-five (25%) percent of land dedicated for recreational purposes must be for active recreational uses (i.e., swimming pools, tennis courts, community buildings, play equipment), with the remainder developed in park-like, passive recreational uses.

For any nonresidential PDA or nonresidential portion of a mixed use PDA, at least fifteen percent (15%) of the gross acreage of the PDA or nonresidential portion of the PDA must be devoted to common open space. Common open space shall be exclusive of required yards, roads, utility easements, landscape requirements of Section 4.32 and detention/retention facilities.

Section 22.03. Development Standards.

A. That portion of a PDA district which abuts a single-family district shall be developed with an acceptable transition or fifty (50) foot wide buffer zone consisting of acceptable landscaping or compatible land use.

B. The PDA must have direct access to and abut a major or secondary thorough fare, as defined by the Master Plan.

C. The minimum lot area, height, and placement requirements in all single-family PDAs shall meet the area, height and placement requirements for the R-1A District, unless otherwise modified by the Planning Commission and illustrated on the approved development plan.

D. All multiple-family and attached residential development shall meet the area, height and placement requirements of the RM District, unless otherwise modified by the approved development plan.

E. All other uses permitted within the applicable districts shall be subject to the requirements of the respective districts, unless otherwise modified by the approved development plan.

F. Yards, fences, walls or vegetative screening shall be provided where needed to protect residents from undesirable views, lighting, noise or other off-site influences, or to protect residential occupants of neighboring areas from similar adverse influences within the PDA. In particular, extensive off-street parking areas, service areas for loading and unloading vehicles other than passengers, and areas for storage and collection of refuse and garbage shall be screened.

G. Architectural features of all structures, including commercial and other, shall be designed to compatibly integrate with the overall character and image of the PDA.

H. The site plan shall provide: for safe, efficient, convenient and harmonious groupings of structures, uses and facilities; for appropriate relation of space inside and outside buildings to intended uses and structural features; and for preservation of desirable natural or historic features and minimum disturbance of natural topography. In particular, streets, drives and parking and service areas shall provide safe and convenient access to buildings and general facilities and for service and emergency vehicles.

I. Streets in residential PDAs shall not be laid out so as to encourage outside traffic to traverse the development of minor streets, nor occupy more land than is required to provide access as indicated, nor create unnecessary fragmentation of the development into small blocks. In general, block size shall be related to the convenience and safety of occupants.

J. The site shall be suitable for development in the manner proposed, without hazards to persons or property, on or off the tract, from probability of flooding, erosion or other dangers, annoyances, or inconvenience. Condition of soil, ground water level, drainage and topography shall all be appropriate to both kind and pattern of use intended.

If appropriate to the form of planned development, lands to be included in the PDA may be divided by streets, right-of-way or easements, waterways, or other separation; but shall be so located, dimensioned and arranged as to permit unified planning and development and to meet all requirements in connection therewith, as well as to provide necessary protection against adverse relation ships between uses in the PDA and uses in surrounding areas.

Section 22.04.a. Concept Plan Review

All PDA projects are subject to a joint concept plan review by the City Council and Planning

Commission. No formal action shall be taken on the PDA as the concept plan is intended to g ive the applicant direction on the merits of the PDA proposal. The concept plan review does not constitute any form of approval of the PDA or the preliminary site plan. The process is intended to give the applicant an indication of the issues and concerns that must be resolved prior to preliminary PDA submittal. The following list is the minimal amount of information which must be provided for concept plan review:

A. The name, address and phone number of:

1. All persons with ownership interests in the property.

2. All professionals associated with the project including engineers, architects, land surveys or attorneys.

3. The developer or proprietor of the PDA project.

B The legal description and tax identification number(s) of the proposed PDA property.
D. The gross and net area (in acres) of the proposed PDA property.
E. A concept plan drawn to scale that graphically represents the proposed development contemplated for the property. Concept maps and illustrations shall

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indicate each type of use, square footage or acreage allocated to each use, and appropriate locations of each principal structure and use in the development. The overall plan shall indicate types of residential, office, commercial, industrial and other nonresidential uses; open space; community facility and public areas; and other proposed land uses.

F. The concept plan shall illustrate the following:

1. A general location map.
2. A map indicating the zoning designation(s) of the proposed PDA property.
3. The vehicular circulation system proposed for the PDA.
4. The location of existing public and private streets adjacent to the proposed PDA with an indication of how they will connect with the proposed circulation system for the new development.
5. General locations and approximate size of any wetland areas (regulated or nonregulated), signification woodlands, unusual slopes, streams and water drainage areas.
6. The general layout of dwelling units, nonresidential buildings, parking, open space and recreation areas.
7. Landscape screening proposed along the perimeter of the proposed PDA.
8. A general description of the proposed sewage treatment and water supply systems and the proposed storm water drainage system.

Section 22.04. Preliminary Plan Submission Requirements.

Establishment of a PDA shall be considered a Zoning Ordinance amendment creating a PDA District, overlaid over the existing zoning district. If, for any reason, the PDA is not built, the original zoning district prevails. Applications for PDA amendments shall be submitted as for other amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, and the Ordinance amendment procedures shall be followed, except that the public hearing requirements of this Article shall apply. Material submitted with the application or on subsequent requests shall include all plans, maps, studies and reports that may reasonably be required to make the determinations called for in the particular case, with sufficient copies for necessary referrals and records. In particular, the following are required:

A. A boundary survey by a registered civil engineer or land surveyor of the exact acreage being requested for development (Map Scale: 1" = 200').

B. A topography map of the entire area at contour intervals of at least two (2) feet. This map shall indicate all major stands of trees, bodies of water, and unbuild able area due to soil conditions, wetlands and so forth (Map Scale: 1" = 200').

C. A preliminary site plan for the entire parcel carried out in such detail as to indicate the functional uses being requested, the densities and dwelling types being proposed, the traffic circulation plan, and sites being reserved for schools and open space (Map Scale: 1= 200').

D. A table shall be provided on the site plan that specifically details all deviations from the zoning regulations. This specification should include ordinance provisions from which deviations are sought, the reasons the deviations are necessary and mechanisms to be utilized to mitigate any impacts. Only those deviations consistent with the intent of this ordinance shall be considered. As a condition of approving such deviations, the City may attach such additional conditions deemed necessary for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare in lieu of the regulations.

E. Sufficient documentation, in the form of written development and design standards and supporting graphics, to ensure that the design of the individual elements of the proposed PDA will be designed in a cohesive and compatible manner, and consistent with the City's desire to establish and maintain a high level of quality Design.

F. The preliminary plans for public water, sanitary sewer and water facilities.

G. A written statement explaining in detail the full intent of the sponsor, indicating the type and number of dwelling units contemplated, resultant population, expected number of elementary school children, and providing supporting documentation such as, but not limited to, soil surveys, market studies supporting land use request, and the intended scheduling of the development showing the feasibility of the proposed plan.

H. A report identifying all property owners within the area of the proposed district and giving evidence of unified control of its entire area. The report shall state agreement of all present property owners and/or their successors in title:

1. To proceed with the proposed development according to the regulations in effect when the amendment creating the PDA District is passed, with all modifications as are set by Council in such action;

2. To provide bonds, dedications, guarantees, agreements, contracts and deed restrictions acceptable to Council for completion of such development according to approved plan; and for continuing operation and maintenance of such areas, facilities and services as are not to be provided, operated or maintained at general public expense; and such dedications, contributions or guarantees as are required for provision of needed public facilities and services; and

3. To bind further successors in title to any commitments made under (1) or (2) above.

Section 22.05. Planning Commission Preliminary Plan Review.

A. Upon receipt of an application by the City, such request shall be referred to the Planning Commission for its review and recommendation. In its review, the Planning Commission shall find:

1. That all applicable provisions of this Article and this Ordinance have been met. Insofar as any provision of this Article shall be in conflict with the provisions of any other Section of this Ordinance, the provisions of this Article shall apply to the lands embraced within a Planned Development Area.

2. That adequate areas have been provided for all common areas, utilities, schools, walkways, playgrounds, recreation areas, parking areas and other spaces.

3. There is, or shall be, at the time of development, an adequate means of disposing of sanitary sewage and of supplying the development with water and that the road system and storm water drainage system are adequate.

4. The plan provides for an efficient, aesthetic and desirable use of the open areas, and the plan is in keeping with the physical character of the City and the area surrounding the development.

B. Upon finding that the conditions outlined above (1 through 4) have been satisfactorily met, the Planning Commission shall hold a public hearing to hear and consider documents relating to the planned development proposal. Notice and procedures for public hearings for Planned Development Areas, as required under Public Act 207 of 1921, as amended, shall be followed.

C. Following said public hearing, the Planning Commission will, within a reason able time, forward their report and recommendation to the City Council.

Section 22.06. Approval of Planned Development Area District.

Upon receipt of the report and recommendation from the Planning Commission, the City Council may approve said application and accompanying preliminary PDA_plan.

A. If the City Council shall determine to grant the application and approve the PDA District, it shall do so by adopting a resolution so stating.

B. If the application is denied, the City Council shall specifically indicate, in writ ing, which standards and requirements the proposed PDA District failed to meet.

C. Once an area has been included within a Planned Development Area and a plan has been approved by the City Council, no development may take place in such area, nor may any use thereof be made, except in accordance with the plan approved or in accordance with a City Council approved amendment thereto.

Section 22.07. Development Agreement.

A PDA Agreement acceptable to the City shall be entered into for all Planned Development Areas. A PDA agreement shall include all of the requirements specified in the section above and be submitted to the City for review at the time of formal submission. After the Agreement is approved and executed, it shall be recorded in the Office of the Wayne County Register of Deeds at the expense of the applicant.

A. The Agreement shall set forth the permitted uses within the PDA, including the Preliminary plan for development and improvement of the site.

B. The Agreement shall set forth the conditions upon which the approval is based, including phasing requirements, requirements for on-site improvements and contributions to required improvements to public facilities.

C. When open space or common areas are indicated in the PDA plan, such areas shall be conveyed in fee or committed by dedication to an association of the property owners.

D. The Agreement shall set forth a program and financing for maintaining common areas and features, such as walkways, signs, lighting and landscaping.

E. The Agreement shall establish architectural standards and require ments for building elevations and building materials.

F. The Agreement shall assure that trees and woodlands will be preserved as shown on the site plan, or replaced on a caliper for caliper basis or as required by the City's Tree Protection Ordinance.

G. The Agreement shall assure the construction and maintenance of all streets and utilities (including public water, waste water collection and treatment). Such assurance may include bonds or other financial guarantees and the establishment of a condominium or owner's association with appropriate assessments to ensure the ongoing maintenance of all roads, storm drainage improvements, landscaping and all other common areas. If private roads are proposed, the association or condo minium documents shall include provisions for a sinking or reserve fund to pay for the long-term maintenance and reconstruction of roads.

The Agreement shall address any other concerns of the City regarding construction and maintenance of roads and common area improvements.

The Agreement may include specific terms or conditions regarding the expiration or revocation of the PDA zoning designation.

J. The Agreement shall state that the Agreement shall not be effective until the agreement is recorded in the Office of the Wayne County Register of Deeds and a certified copy of the recorded agreement has been delivered to the City.

Section 22.08. Submission of Final Site Plan.

A. Before any building permits shall be issued for buildings and structures within the area of Planned Development Area, a final site plan for the phase or area to be constructed shall be submitted to the City for review by the Planning Commission. This submittal shall include:

1. A detailed site plan, fully dimensioned, showing a fully scaled plan

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OBITUARIES

BARBEE, Robert L.

Robert L. Barbee, 52, of Ypsilanti, a former 20-year Belleville resident, died Dec. 6.

Among his survivors are his wife of more than 21 years, Paula (Vance) Barbee; children, Crystal (Daniel) Lesperance of Southgate, Paul (Dawn) Burke of Oklahoma, Jennifer Barbee of Belleville, Robyn Barbee of Omaha, NE, Aaron (Kimberly) Barbee of Belleville and William Smallman of Ypsilanti; a brother, Derek (Millie) Barbee of Ypsilanti; an aunt, Audie Herndon of FL; an uncle, Doyle Morris of Ypsilanti, and 13 grandchildren.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Pastor Bedford Smith officiating.

Interment was at the Union-Udell Cemetery in Ypsilanti.

OWENS, Wanda Claire

Wanda Claire Bevins Owens, 91, of Belleville, died Dec. 9.

Among her survivors are her special friends and neighbors of more than 21 years, Garry (Betty) Gulliver of Belleville and Beth (Shannon) Gulliver and Brian (Mary) Gulliver, all of Belleville and her cousins, Betty White of Canton, Dorothy Tate of Clear, VA, Virginia Colley of Porter, VA and Ferne Pate of Bloomfield Hills.

Mrs. Owens retired from the Chrysler "Amplex Plant" after 25 years.

Funeral services were at Owens Funeral Service in Lebanon, VA with the Rev. Mike Carter officiating.

Graveside services were at Russell Memorial Cemetery in Lebanon, VA.

Local arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

RUCKER, Calvin E.

Calvin E. Rucker, 57, of Atlanta, GA, formerly of Detroit, died Nov. 27.

Among his survivors are his parents, Leo and Marie Rucker; his children, Tijuana, Dawn Marie and Calvin Rucker and Lisa Courtney; eight grandchildren; a great-grandchild, and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services were at Hunter Hill Baptist Church in Atlanta, GA.

Graveside services were at Romulus Cemetery with the Rev. Charles Woolridge of First Baptist Church in Romulus officiating.

Local arrangements were entrusted to the Crane Funeral Home in Romulus.

PARSONS, Anita Kay

Anita Kay Parsons, 67, of Belleville, died Dec. 10.

Among her survivors are her children, Carl D. Parsons of Vilonia, AK, Brian Keith (Mary) Parsons of Redford and Karen Renee Parsons, also of Belleville; a sister, Dolores Matson of Ludington, and two grandchildren, Jack and Robert Parsons.

Mrs. Parsons was a member of Grace Lutheran Church of Redford and a former member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Belleville Moose and the Eagles.

She was employed with Van Buren Township from 1974 until her retirement in 1997. She served as an office steward and president of her AFSCME Local 236.

Funeral services at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Dr. V.F. Halboth officiating.

Interment was at Hillside Cemetery in Belleville.

HEWETT, Margaret Bertha

Margaret Bertha Hewett, 89, of Belleville, formerly of Wisconsin, died Dec. 7.

Among her survivors are her children, Gale C. (Beverly) Hewett of Wylie, TX, Arleen (Ralph) Nodwell of Belleville and Kenneth (Beverly) Hewett of Milwaukee, WI; a brother-in-law, Frances Staeger of Milwaukee; eight grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Hewett was a member of the September Days Senior Citizens and the Ladies Auxiliary.

Funeral services were at the Zwaska Funeral Home in Brown Deer, WI with the Rev. John Kelling officiating.

Interment was at Graceland Cemetery in Milwaukee, WI.

Local arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home.

NEHEZ, Alex J.

Alex J. "A.J." Nehez, 89, of Belleville, formerly of Detroit, died Dec. 5.

Among his survivors are his step-children, Thomas Fry, several step-grandchildren; four nephews, Nick (Carole) Nehez of Philadelphia, PA, Jim (Ro) Nehez of Newport Beach, CA, Steve (Ann) Nehez of Belleville and Tim (Jeanne) Nehez of Saline; five nieces, Eva Skidmore of Canton Township, Barbara (Victor) Jaszcz of Ypsilanti, Mary (Bruce) Bice of Dexter, Josephine (Alex) Navarro of Camden DE and Liz Nehez, of Canton Township, and several great-nieces and nephews.

A funeral mass was celebrated at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Belleville with Father Thomas H. Cusick as celebrant.

Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home.

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view of all buildings, all public road right-of-way and private streets, densities, parking areas, utilities, churches, schools, and areas to be set aside for the use of the public or by residents within the development,

2. The proposed topography (contour interval of at least two (2) feet) shall be superimposed on all site plans (Scale: 1" = 50').

3. Floor plans typical of all residential buildings, except detached single-family, shall be submitted and the site plan shall indicate which floor plan is tentatively applicable to each such building.

4. Each final plat or site plan submitted within the Planned Development Area shall, either individually or in combination with previously approved project areas, meet the standards of this Section as to density and open space requirements. Open space shall be computed as a pro portionate amount of the total open space requirement.

5. All other provisions of Section 4.03 Site Plan Review.

Section 22.09. Approval of Final Site Plan.

A. Review and approval of site plans shall comply with this Ordinance and any other applicable ordinances, except as modified in the approved development plan. Review and approval of plat shall comply with Act 288 of the Public Acts of 1967 (MCL 560.101 et seq., MSA 26.430(101) et seq.), as amended, and the Subdivision Control Ordinance of the City, in addition to the requirements of this Article.

B. To encourage flexibility and creativity in development consistent with the objectives of the planned development area in Section 22.01, Intent, departures from compliance with the regulations in this Ordinance may be granted by the Planning Commission, as part of the approval of final site plan approval. Such departures may be approved on the condition that the design of the project shall compensate so that any such departures result in a higher quality development with no greater adverse impact than if the project had been developed without the departures.

C. In reviewing and approving the final plans, the following conditions shall be set forth as conditions to be completed prior to issuance of building permits:

1. Approval shall be granted by the Planning Commission.
2. A dedication of all public roads shall be made so as to cause continuity of public access between the adjacent major thoroughfare and ingress and egress to all private development within the plan.

3. The Planning Commission shall determine:

a. That all areas shown upon the site plan for the entire Planned Development Area are for use by the public or the residents have been irrevocably committed to such uses by dedication, restrictive covenants, or in some manner satisfactory to the City Council.

b. That the final plan is in general conformity with the original plan previously approved.

D. Approval of the site plan shall be effective for a period of three (3) years. Failure to complete development in that period shall void the site plan and the Planned Development Area and the subject site shall revert to its underlying zoning district.

E. Final plan approval is an administrative action. No public notice or hearing is required in connection with approval proceedings on final plans, but the Planning Commission may hold such hearings or cause such hearings to be held, with such notice as it deems appropriate in connection with such actions.

Section 22.10. Fees for PDA Applications.

Fees for a zoning amendment creating a Planned Development Area (PDA) shall be as approved by the City Council.

Section 2 Repealer

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed.

Section 3 Severability

Should any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, or word of this Ordinance be held invalid for any reason, such decisions shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Ordinance.

Section 4 Savings

This amendatory ordinance shall not affect violations of the Zoning Ordinance or any other ordinance existing prior to the effective date of this Ordinance and such violation shall be governed and shall continue to be separately punishable to the full extent of the law under the provisions of such ordinance at the time the violation was committed.

Section 5 Effective Date

This Ordinance shall take effect upon publication thereof in an official newspa per, which publication shall be made when the minutes passing the ordinance are published.

ADOPTED, APPROVED AND PASSED by the City Council of the City of Romulus this 6th day of December, 2004.

Alan R. Lambert, Mayor
Linda R. Choate, City Clerk

Within forty-five (45) days after the publication of any ordinance duly passed by the Council, a petition may be presented to the Council protesting against such ordinance continuing in effect. Said petition shall contain the test of such ordinance and shall be signed by not less than six percent (6%) of the registered electors registered at the last preceding election at which a Mayor of the City was elected. Said ordinance shall thereupon and thereby be suspended from operation and the Council shall immediately reconsider such ordinance.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Ordinance as adopted by the City Council of the City of Romulus at a regular Council Meeting held in the City Council Chambers in said City on the 6th day of December, 2004.

Linda R. Choate
City Clerk

Publish: December 23, 2004

Sports

Former Inkster basketball star buys pro team

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

One of Darryl Greene's dreams has finally come true. He's now an owner of a professional basketball team.

The former Inkster resident and his company, Greene Sports & Entertainment, recently came to an agreement with the newly formed International Basketball League (IBL) to form, own and operate a basketball team right here in the metro-Detroit area. So hoops fans can gear up for an elongated basketball season when the Greene's Detroit Pros hit the hardwood this spring.

"It's a great opportunity to bring professional basketball to the inner city and at the same time give players an opportunity to sharpen their skills and increase their chances at making the NBA," he said.

The season, slated to start on Friday, April 8 and run through June, will not interfere with high school, college or NBA scheduling, which will allow fans to enjoy an entirely new season of basketball, Greene said.

Greene has exceptional experience as a player of the sport. He was named First Team All-Conference and received All-State honorable mention merits when he attended Inkster High School. He played four years of college ball at Moorhead State University in Minnesota where he holds the all-time single-season assists record.

He also played professionally in the Continental Basketball Association (CBA) for Fargo, ND during the 1993-1994 season. On the business side, Greene earned a bachelor's degree in marketing from Wayne State University and his Masters in Business Administration from Heidelberg in Ohio. He is currently a mortgage broker and a certified NBA player agent.

Greene and league officials promise that the IBL will be fast-paced and exciting for fans.

"The IBL uses standard basketball league rules, except when it comes to dead time," said League Commissioner Mikal Duilio. "The IBL employs two new rules that eliminate most dead time."

The rules are as follows: each team is only allowed one timeout per quarter and there is an immediate inbound rule, he said.

Operations Director Tony Alvarez said the IBL hosted test games in Portland, OR, where the league is based, and the scores ran between 120 and 140 points.

"That's what fans want," Alvarez said. "There's not a lot of downtime – just a fast game with a lot of scoring."

The new league appears to be in good hands. Duilio has more than 16 years of experience and has organized and scheduled more than 60, 000 basketball games in his career. He also operates the world's largest basketball league, Portland Basketball, out of Portland, OR.

But how does the new ILB plan to succeed where others have failed?

Travel costs are the main reason for failure, according to Duilio.

"Other minor leagues have teams that are isolated over large geographical areas, meaning most away games are by flight. Sending 15 players and coaches by flight more than once per season is too costly for minor league teams," he said.

Darryl Greene

The IBL only recruits in 'clusters' – teams that are within a drive of each other, he said. Not only does the owner save money by playing the 'cluster' teams, but also when a team goes to another 'cluster,' they can knock out three or four games at once.

Greene and his Detroit Pros, who will don maroon, gold and white uniforms, will play against fellow cluster teams in Flint, Battle Creek and Grand Rapids.

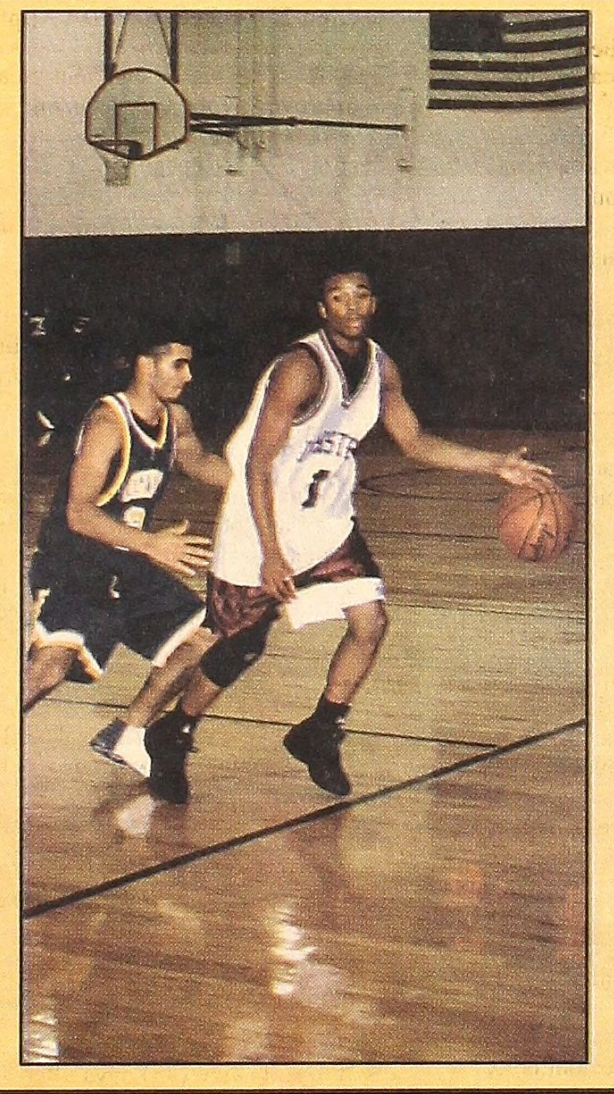
There are 12 other teams so far in the IBL.

As a certified NBA player agent, Greene plans to have some heavy hitters for the Pros. One of the premier players is former Inkster star Albert White. White, a former 1995 McDonald's All American and Big 12 player of the year in 1998, is currently play-

See IBL, page 14

Vikings conquered

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer



Inkster and Fordson went at it for the first time this year last week. Like every rivalry game, it went back and forth but it didn't end the way Inkster would have hoped. Fordson led at the end of three of the four quarters but, most importantly, they finished the fourth with 42-36 victory.

Inkster led through most of the first but Fordson, with a put-back with 38 seconds left, overtook the lead, 14-13. It then took Inkster almost five minutes before they scored in the second. Anre Goree hit two from the line with 33 seconds left in the half to give Inkster the lead, 26-27, but Fordson went down the court and reclaimed the lead, 27-26, at the end of the period.

The lead changed again in the third but this time, with a shot from Jonathan Brown, Inkster held the lead 32-31 at the end of three quarters.

Fordson slowly pulled away in the fourth with two three-pointers from Isoam Nimer and Ali Fadallah. Inkster had some chances but the game was just out of reach and Fordson won 42-36.

Canton grapplers make strides on mat

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Canton grapplers have made tremendous strides over the last few years when coach Casey Randolph took over the program. This year they are already 10-3 for the season, one game away from last year's 11 victories with as many 11 meets still to compete in.

Canton hosted their annual varsity tournament on Saturday and came away 5-0 on the day.

They defeated Livonia Stevenson (72-3), Monroe Jefferson (44-27), Ann Arbor Pioneer (56-13), Allen Park (45-33) and New Boston Huron (45-24).

New Boston Huron is ranked sixth in Division III, according to Randolph.

"For us to beat them like that really says a lot about where this team is headed," he said.

Ryan Schnettler (103), Jay Fleishmann (119), Corey Phillips (130) Ryan Webb (135), Konrad Konsitzke (140) and Keil Price (171) all went undefeated on the day.

P.J. Caram (189) and Tom Bonnell (215) both suffered just one loss in the tournament.

Pete Bonneau showed that his heart was bigger than the mat when he took on Ann Arbor Pioneer's Zach Damon. Bonneau forfeited his opportunity to go undefeated for the benefit of the physically disabled Damon.

Damon, who has little use in both of his legs, had never won a wrestling match until Bonneau sacrificed the win in a six-minute match. At the end the referee raised Damon's hand as the victor.

"It was amazing what Pete did for Zach," Randolph said. "The audience gave Zach a standing ovation and there were some people crying in the stands. It was incredible to see. Pete is such an unselfish, good kid."

Before that they placed third as a team at the Salem Varsity Tournament the previous Saturday. They scored 202 points and were behind Detroit Catholic Central (254) and Salem (234).

They had two first-place winners and three other top-three finishers.

Webb was tops in the 135-weight class. He defeated Detroit Catholic Central's Sean Dong 8-6 in overtime, according to Randolph. Dong was ranked third in the state. It was a huge win for Webb and it earned him the tournament MVP for the lower weight class, he said.

Phillips also won first at the 130-weight class.

Konsitzke, at 140 pounds, took second place. He fell to Belleville's Greg Rochon, 8-7, in the final match. Rochon was a state qualifier last year.

Matt Sweda placed second at the 145-weight class and Marwan Faraj placed second at 160.

Pat McWhirter, at 171 pounds,

See Wrestle, page 14

Whalers trounce Oshawa Generals, 6-3

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Whalers moved back in to second place with two colossal wins last weekend. They now trail the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds by just two points in the Western division.

To get them back in a prime position, the Whalers sank the last place Generals 6-3 in Oshawa.

Plymouth scored two goals within the first minute of the first period. Dearborn native John Vigilante scored 30 seconds off the opening face-off and then James Neal added another score 25 seconds later for a 2-0 lead and 19 minutes left to play in the first frame. John Mitchell and John Armstrong notched the assists on Vigilante's goal and Mike Knight and Gino Pisellini helped on the Neal goal.

There was plenty of time left in the session and Vigilante added to Plymouth's lead with his 11th goal of the season at about the 6:26 mark. Armstrong and Mike Looby earned the assists.

The Generals didn't give in, though, and managed two late goals by Brett Trudell and Matt Piva, which lessened Plymouth's advantage to 3-2.

See Whalers, page 15

Romulus hoopsters go 4-0 to open season

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

In the last two weeks, the Romulus Eagles have gone undefeated on the hardwood. To get there they have averaged almost 82 points a game with contributions from a variety of players, veteran and new.

Senior point guard Jarret Smith was a key component of the team effort. He has averaged 20 points a game and is responsible for distributing the ball.

"Jarret is doing a great job spreading the ball around," said Romulus Coach Nate Oates. "On any given night he is able to score a triple-double."

The Eagles are 4-0 with victories against non-league opponents Dearborn Heights Robichaud, Wyandotte and Ypsilanti Lincoln. They are also 1-0 in league competition with a win against Monroe on Friday.

In the season opener against Robichaud, Romulus threw up 87 points to the Bulldogs' 70 for the win. Smith led the pack with 28 points and seven rebounds while Geryn Reece hit for 15 with seven rebounds. Avery Stephenson and Dante Williams each knocked down 11 points. Stephenson also nabbed nine rebounds. Jason Gibson was a force on the boards with nine rebounds and the 6-foot-9 Devin Sercy grabbed seven rebounds and scored seven.

Romulus knocked off Wyandotte 78-55 in their home opener on Dec. 10. Smith led again with 24 points and eight rebounds. Stephenson scored 20 and Sercy, 11. Dominique Buckley, Reece and Gibson all had seven points.

Stephenson led the Eagles with 22 points in the match-up against Lincoln in Ypsilanti last Tuesday. Williams added 17 and Smith, 16.

Romulus was up 28 points in the third quarter, so Oates started the fourth with third stringers. "That made the score seem a lot closer than what it was," he said.

The Eagles played Monroe on the road Friday and nearly doubled the Trojans' score with an 82-43 victory.

Williams had 26 points, which included six three-pointers. He scored 19 in the first half alone, according to Oates. Stephenson added 14 and Smith, 12, in the win.

The team will get their first real test when they travel to Indianapolis next Tuesday and face Lawrence North, ranked No.2 nationally by a USA Today poll.

Other tests this season will include Ypsilanti on Jan. 21 and Belleville on Jan. 28.

Belleville is also undefeated (4-0) and all three teams were ranked in the top 10 in the state.

Wrestle

FROM PAGE 13

finished in third place.

Schnettler (103), Sam Santilli (112), Alex Freitag (152), Chris Hasse (160) and Price (189) all finished fourth in their respective weight classes.

Jay Fleischmann (119), Tom Bonnell (215) and Donnie Laramie (heavy weight) all placed fifth in their weight classes and Bonneau finished seventh at 125.

Previous to the Salem tournament the Chiefs competed in the Hudson Invitational. There, they defeated top schools such as Hudson (37-30), Napoleon (34-33) and Jonesville (63-9). They even set a school record for the first shutout and most points scored in a match in the Canton's history, when they trounced Hillsdale, 75-0.

Five grapplers went undefeated; Webb, Phillips, Konsitzke, Schnettler, and P.J. Caram.

The team's three losses so far this season were all less than 10 points. They fell against Monroe (32-34), Southgate (34-31) and they lost to Salem by nine points.

"The kids are getting in to the right weight class and I'm feeling pretty good where we're at right now," Randolph said. "We're heading in the right direction."

Canton travels to Brother Rice on Wednesday, Dec. 29 and won't roll again until after the New Year when they host Franklin High School in a dual meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 6.

IBL

FROM PAGE 13

ing professionally in Korea.

Former John Glenn standout Guy Rucker also plans to be on the team. He spent his college days at the University of Iowa before he played with the L.A. Lakers and Golden Sate Warriors in the NBA.

Greene also hopes to nab the talent of a former member of the University of Michigan's 'Fab Five' Jimmy King and Brandon Hughes. Hughes was Peoria High School runner up for Illinois Player of the year, Junior College All American and a University of Michigan standout as well.

He now plays professional ball in Poland.

Each team will play 20 games, said Alvarez, and the league is currently working on a playoff system for a championship game that would take place in Portland.

Greene hasn't decided on a coach or a venue yet, but he is currently working on both items. It is possible that the Pros' 10 home games will take place at Romulus High School on Friday or Saturday nights with tickets priced at about $7 for general admission or $20 for four seats. But the final details have not yet been established, he said.

Regardless, he said the Detroit Pros and the IBL league is going to offer great basketball in a family oriented atmosphere for a great price.

"The time frame for the season is perfect and games will be more readily available to watch as a family," he said. "And just because they pay $7 a game doesn't mean they're going to see a $7 game."

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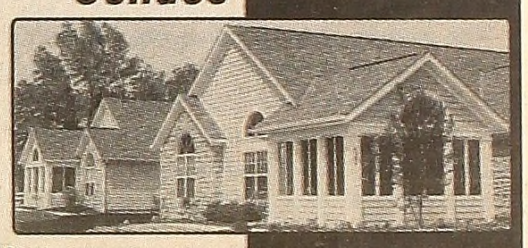
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Canton tumblers top Brighton, Vassar in opening week

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

It was a long time in the making, but the Canton gymnasts defeated Brighton 139.75 to 139.35 in their first meet of the year last Tuesday.

"I don't know for sure but it's been at least five or six years since we beat them last," said Canton Coach John Cunningham. "They've always had a strong team. It feels good to start the season with a win."

Alyssa Kelley took first place in all the events, which was enough to clinch first in the all-around with an unbeatable 36.80.

Canton took the top two spots in the vault competition. Kelley was tops with a 9.45 and Jessie Murray followed in second with a 9.05. Kaitlin Pietila and Nicole Brouilland tied for third place for Brighton.

The Canton tumblers also took two of the top three spots on the bars. Kelley was tops again with and 8.9 and Murray finished out the top three spots with an 8.45. Rachael Page placed second (8.85) for Brighton.

Kelley tied with Brouilland on the balance beam. They both scored a 9.0 to share the win. Brighton's Page was close behind in third (8.95).

Kelley scored a 9.45 on the floor exercise for another win. Brouilland followed in second with a 9.3 and Catie Carlson placed third (9.2).

"I'm extremely proud of the team," Cunningham said. "I'm looking forward to the season. Hopefully we can keep it going."

They did keep things going when they traveled to Vassar on Saturday. There they walked away with a 131.8-114.7 victory and took the top three places in every event and the top two in the all-around. And that was with five of their best gymnasts out.

Kelley, Kaitlyn Burns, Kara Ahern were out because of the holiday and Megan Chapo and Hillary Brock were both out with injuries.

On vault, Kate Staley placed first (8.65), Laura Hamilton came in second (8.5) and Murray followed in third (8.45).

Staley led the pack on the beam, also. She scored an 8.45 for first with Nina Pirzadeh in second (8.25). Hamilton and Murray tied for third place in the event (7.5).

On the beam, Pirzadeh scored a personal best (9.25) to capture first place in the event. Murry was closest with an 8.25 and Chelsea Seldon was third (8.0).

Despite Vassar not having a spring floor the Chiefs still did well in the floor event. Pirzadeh came in first with an 8.6. Murray (8.55) and Courtney Ward (7.95) followed in second and third respectively.

Pirzadeh was tops of the all-around with a 34.3 points and Murray was second with 32.75.

"It was a nice, friendly meet," said Cunningham. "It was a nice meet to have before the Christmas break."

When Canton returns from break they'll have to be ready to take on Northville on Jan. 6 and Salem on Jan. 11.

"If we can slip by those two we're going to look good the rest of the year," Cunningham said.

Whalers

FROM PAGE 15

Armsrong earned his third point of the night in the second period with a power-play score. Andrew Fournier extended the lead, 5-2, with only eight seconds left in the middle term. Knight and Cory Tanaka were credited with the assists.

Matt Piva made it a two-goal game again when he scored his first goal of the season for the Generals at about the 12:30 mark of the third. Vaclav Meidl was in the box for slashing, which gave the Generals a man advantage. But Mitchell canceled out the goal when he scored on power play about a minute later. It was his 10th goal of the season. Vigilante picked up his third point of the night on the play and Looby also assisted.

Justin Garay earned the win in net for Plymouth. He faced 35 shots and steered away 32 of them.

The Whalers now have a 14-14-4-2 record. They are off until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 28, when they host the Central division-leading Brampton Battalion. They will then finish off 2004 with a home game against the Sarnia Sting at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 30.

Whalers 2, Bulls 1

The Whaler's two first-period goals against the Belleville Bulls were enough for a 2-1 victory on Saturday night in Belleville.

Dan Collins earned his 12th goal of the season when he put the first one in for the Whalers at the 7:23 mark. Mitchell assisted on the play. Knight made it a 2-0 game with less than five minutes left to play. Geoff Killing was in the box for tripping, which made it a power play for Plymouth.

The second period went scoreless, but Belleville made it a game when Matt Belesky scored just 1:03 into the third frame. But Plymouth goalie Ryan Nie, was solid and secured the victory.

Whalers 1, Majors 2

Plymouth wasn't as lucky in their meeting with the Toronto St. Michael's Majors on Friday night in Toronto.

It didn't take long for the Whalers to jump on the board. Fournier put the biscuit in the basket just 13 seconds into the game. Jonas Fiedler and James Neal earned the assists. But that would be the only goal for Plymouth.

Toronto countered with a goal by Darryl Boyce, which knotted the game 1-1.

Toronto managed a power-play goal from Cory Vitarelli, which was enough for the victory as the third period went scoreless.

When the Whalers return from Christmas break on Tuesday, Dec. 28 they'll be offering a lot more than the usually exciting hockey.

Working with several corporate partners, the annual matinee game between Christmas and New Years is also Kids Day. There will be several giveaways planned that day. The first 1,000 kids 12-and-under will receive a coupon for free ice cream cone compliments of Plymouth Super Center. The first 1,000 kids (12 and under) will also receive a free Whalers temporary tattoo, compliment of Lou LaRiche Chevrolet. The first 500 kids (12 and under) will receive free Kids Meal coupon compliments of Bob Evans and various other coupons a, gifts and awards will be randomly provided to children throughout the game.

In addition, there will be special games and contests for kids in the main concourse of the Compuware Sports Arena before and during the game.

Preseason tournaments prepare Mustang Volleyball

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Northville volleyball squad had mixed results when they battled in the North Farmington Invitational on Saturday.

They went 2-2-1 on the day but lost to Harrison, 12-21 and 10-21, in the semi finals.

"I think Harrison and Northville were the two toughest teams in the tournament," said Northville Coach Steve Anderson. "Unfortunately, we were on the same side of the pool."

The Mustangs started the tournament off with a win against Plymouth Christian. They pulled out a close 25-23 victory in the opening game and finished them off in the second, 21-12. They split their games against Birmingham Groves in the second match; the first game ended in a 21-13 victory, but Birmingham countered with a 21-12 game for the split.

They then faced off against Harrison, where both games came to a close finish. Harrison pulled out 21-18 and 21-19 victories to win their side of the pool.

The loss sent Northville into a rematch with Birmingham Groves in the quarterfinals of the tournament. The 'Stangs pounded out a 21-14 win in the first game and narrowly pulled off a 21-19 win in the second. The victory sent them to the semifinals against Harrison.

Harrison came on strong and defeated Northville in two games, 21-12 and 21-10. Senior Evonna Karchon had 38 kills and seven aces during the weekend. Senior Dianna Deaibes led in assists with 64 and nailed four aces. Junior Morgan Daul had 31 digs and 29 kills, while senior Jessica Markstrom had 26 digs.

Anderson isn't complaining. His team is 5-4-1 in his first year as coach in Northville. Last year's team was 1-8 at the same point in the season.

"I'm pleased with the progress, considering it is an entirely different offense and defense we're putting together," he said. "I'm pretty happy with everything; we're going in the right direction but we still have a lot of work to do."

Anderson coached six years at Canton High School and Henry Ford Community College prior to coming to Northville. He said he is implementing a college offense and new defensive scheme that should help land them higher in the standings this year.

Northville boosted their record the previous weekend at the Airport Innvitational. They won 3-of-5 games at the tournament. They defeated Divine Child, Lakeville and Madison but fell to Lenawee Christian and Lumin Christian.

Canton skaters fall to the Salem Rocks, Northville Mustangs

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

A 0-2 record for the week wasn't what the Canton Chiefs were looking for, but they will have to settle for it after they faced two of the top teams in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

"We didn't see that coming," said Dan Behen, assistant coach for Canton.

First, they faced Salem on Wednesday. The 4-3 loss did more than put a dent in the Chiefs record – it left both teams shorthanded when the game ended in a scrum.

Nine players – five from Canton and four from Salem – were dealt game misconduct penalties for their involvement in the scrum.

The fight broke out during a face-off in the final seconds of the game. A Salem player fell on top of the puck and the referee refrained from didn't blow the whistle while the Canton players continued to poke at the puck and player.

"The ref should have blown the whistle right away," said Canton Coach Mike Behen. "It was mostly players shoving each other – it wasn't an all-out fight.

Salem lit up the board first with two goals in the first period. Craigen Bauldry knocked in the first one and Chris Wilson added the second.

Canton didn't give in, though. Kevin Tollison cut into the lead with a goal in the second. Not only did Canton score in the second but they held off four 5-on-3 penalties in the second period.

But Salem went ahead again with two goals in third. Cooper put one in, which made it a 3-1 game. Brant added another for a three-goal lead.

Canton fought back again and scored two goals. Reece McCabe had a hand in both goals. He whacked in the first one unassisted and assisted Bryan Wioncek on the second, which made it 4-3.

Then the scrum started and the game ended in Salem's favor.

The suspensions left Canton five starters short for their match up against Northville on Saturday. The Mustangs won the game, 4-1, with goals from Derek Mohacsi (2), Dino Bernebei and Donny McKinnon.

Brett Giacamino scored the lone goal for Canton with an assist form McCabe.

Canton is off until Jan. 5 when they head to Country day.

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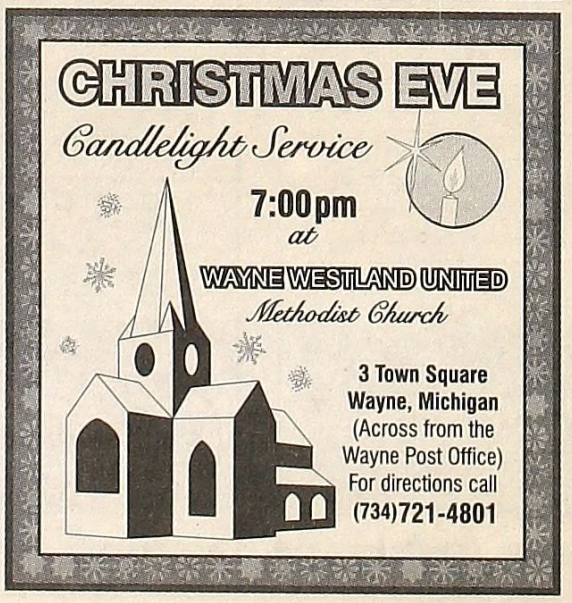

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2 Door
2C1MR2468L6026291
1996 Chevrolet Beretta
2 Door
1G1LV1542TY264867
1986 Chevrolet
2 Door
1G1FP87S6GL120690
1977 GMC
Truck
TCE667V597767
1975 GMC
Truck
TTE665V576960
1989 Mercury
4 Door
2MEBM75F5KX657768
1991 Dodge
Station Wagon
2B6HB21Y6MK406595
1990 Mercury
4 Door
1MECM50U4LG638621
1989 Ford Tempo
4 Door
1FAPP36X0KK239772
1994 Saturn
4 Door
1G8ZK5575RZ164559
1985 Ford
Pickup Truck
2FTEF15N4FCB46806
1990 Ford
Station Wagon
1FMDA31U4LZA17929
1990 Mercury Marquis
4 Door
2MECM75F8LX621188
1984 Chrysler
4 Door
1C3BT56E5EC292299
1986 Toyota
4 Door
JT2AE82E3G3405137
1992 Chrysler Lebaron
2 Door
1C3XU4131NF129876
1976 Ford
2 Door
6G21H241508
1986 Mercury
2 Door
8H11F603723
1989 Dodge Shadow
2 Door
1B3BP44D7KN681774
1994 Plymouth
4 Door
1P3AA46K3RF102761
1993 Plymouth
4 Door
1P3XP6833PN519276

AUTO AUCTION
J & M Towing
8964 Inkster Rd.
Romulus, MI 48174
734-946-4101
December 29, 2004
At 11:00 am.

Ford Focus

1989 Ford
2 Door
1FAPP9197KW317047
200 Pontiac Sunfire
2 Door
1G2JB1241Y7434908

YV1FX8843M1126066

1994 GMC
Pickup Truck
1GTCS194XRK503281
1970 Frue/TL
Trailer
BLS348843
2000 Wabash
Trailer
1JJV532W4YL732143
1995 Ford Windstar
Station Wagon
2FMDA5141BA57558
1992 Pontiac Lemans
2 Door
KL2TX2466NB314656
1990 Ford
Utility
1FDKE37HXLHB12040
1972 Chevrolet
ME638B105876
1984 Monon
Trailer
1NNVF4826EM082254
1985 Pontiac Parisienne
4 Door
1G2BL69H2FX250064
1986 Ford LGT CONV F
Pickup Truck
2FDKF37L6GCA13228
1992 Geo
4 Door
1Y1SK5469NZ065572
1995 Pontiac
4 Door
1G2JB5245S7511732
1986 Buick
2 Door
1G4NJ27U0GM104283
1990 Pontiac Grand Am
2 Door
1G2NE14U9LC391201
1995 Mercury
4 Door
1MELM66L2SK601292
1990 Cadillac Sedan
Deville
4 Door
1G6CD5335L4277263
1987 Chevrolet Sportvan
Van
1GBEG25H2H7120269
1984 Chevrolet Camaro
2 Door
1G1AP87H0EN151045
1998 Ford Taurus
4 Door
1FAFP52U8WG189537
1994 Ford Tempo
2 Door
1FAPP31X4RK180971
1992 Buick Park Avenue
4 Door
1G4CW53L1N1626085
1993 Ford
2 Door
1FAPP1285PW270972
1990 Mitsubishi
4 Door
JA3CU26X1LU02788
1983 Chevrolet Sportvan Van
1GBEG25H9D7178387
1986 Chevrolet
Station Wagon
1G8CM15E0GB142269
1989 Ford
Pickup Truck
2FTDF15Y4KCA27430
1986 GMC
Pickup Truck
1GTBS14E9G2511428
1991 Plymouth Laser
2 Door
4P3CS34TXME032538
1997 Chevrolet Cavalier
4 Door
1G1JC524V7319556
1993 Toyota
4 Door
1NXAE04E3PZ046318
1991 Cadillac
4 Door
1G6CD53B8M4337674
1991 Ford
4 Door
1FAPP36X0MK106724
1994 Ford
4 Door
3FARP13J5RR144188

Call 734-467-1900 to place your classified ad.

Goch & Sons
Auction to be held at
J&M Towing
8964 Inkster Rd.
Romulus, MI 48174
734-946-4101
December 29th, 2004
11:00AM

1990 Plymouth Voyager
Station Wagon
1P4FH44RXL305306

AUTO AUCTION
Howard's Towing & Collision
35830 Van Born Rd.
Wayne, MI 48184
734-326-1114
December 28, 2004
Auction 1:00 p.m.
Vehicles Sold "AS IS"
Cash Only

1996 Saturn
1G8ZJ5275TZ113951
1988 Chevrolet
2GCDK14J7J1214748
1990 Ford
1FTCR10AXLPB24080
1988 Chevrolet
2GBHG31K8J4127264
1985 International Van
1HTLDUXM1FHA45174
1983 Oldsmobile
1G3AK47Y6DM495420
1977 Ford
F37SCY31667
1994 Pontiac
1G2HX52L4R4275576
1988 Dodge
1B3BD46D8JC245998
1992 Saturn
1G8ZK5470NZ134056
1994 Ford
1FMCA11U4RZA87133
1990 Lincoln
1LNCM93EXLY711977
1993 Plymouth
JP3CB50G6PU052432

CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On December 28, 2004 the Westland Police Department will conduct public auctions of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The first auction will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. at Westland Service Towing, 37501 Cherry Hill, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

1990 Mercury Marquis
Station Wagon-Blue
2MECM79F5LX623698
1982 Oldsmobile Delta 88
4 Door-Gold
1G3AY69N5CM279697
1994 Ford Thunderbird
2 Door-Blue
1FALP624XRH204823
1992 GMC Safari
Station Wagon-Blue
1GKDM15Z6NB519749
1993 Chrysler Lebaron
Convertible-White/Black
1C3XU5539PF661296

The second auction will begin promptly at 11:00a.m. at Westland Car Care 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

Trailer/Flatbed
Red
None
1993 Ford Aerostar
Station Wagon-Green
1FMCA11U5PZB98707
1990 Ford Econoline
Van-White
1FTJE34H0LHA86052
1996 Lincoln Continental
4 Door-White
1LNLM97V5TY668398
1995 Chevrolet Cavalier
4 Door-Green
1G1JC5240S7215230
1986 Chevrolet Celebrity
4 Door-White
2G1AW19X1G1141241
1991 Ford F-150
Pickup Truck-Gray
2FTDF15Y1MCA26190
1986 Honda Accord
4 Door-Brown
1HGBA7432GA108483

The third auction will begin promptly at 12:00pm at Bar Towing, 39025 Warren, Westland, Mi, County of Wayne, where the following vehicle will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

1995 Volvo 850 Turbo
Station Wagon-Red
YV1LW5714S2088236

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

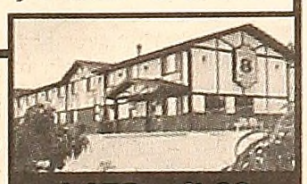
30 DAY NOTICE OF AUCTION

Due to unknown ownership, 30 day notice is hereby given that the vehicle(s) listed below will be auctioned after JANUARY 15, 2005 unless it is claimed by the owner prior to that time:

1994 Ford Escort
4 Door-Black

87. Rooms for Rent

CANTON
Super 8 Motel
3933 Lotz Rd (off Michigan Ave.)
(734)722-8880



AWARD WINNING Super 8 Motel
WEEKLY RATES $199.99 & UP
I-275 exit 22

• All new rooms • Free deluxe continental breakfast
• Biscuits, gravy & belgian waffles added
• Free local phone calls • 70 station cable w/ HBO
• All interior corridors, with elevators • Micro fridge available
• " Ask about our jacuzzi rooms"

89. Apartments for Rent

PRINCETON COURT APARTMENTS

NO RENT UNTIL JANUARY 2005!

Ranch-style land 2 bedroom apts., private entrance, patio, washer/dryer hook-ups, lots of storage!

* with approved credit

Under New Management

734-459-6640

Convenient Wilcox/Haggerty Area Plymouth

89. Apartments for Rent

Belmont Manor apartments

ONE MONTH FREE RENT!
Spacious 1 Bedroom Apartment ONLY $560*
Spacious 2 Bedroom Apartment ONLY $660*

•Extensive Storage • Fitness Center
•Minutes from Eastern MI University, Metro Airport & University of MI

3 Blks. South of Belleville Rd. (Main St.) On Huron River Drive

For Details Call
(734) 699-2042

Holiday Savings.... Wayne Forest Apartments

We have up to two months FREE rent.

• FREE Heat • FREE Water
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• 24 Hour Maintenance
• Carport Parking
• Centrally located to the Airport, Highways & Shopping

33095 Forest, Wayne, MI
734 326-7800
South of Michigan Ave., Just off of Venoy

89. Apartments for Rent

Newburgh Colonial Apartments
734-721-6699

– Limited Special! – $425 Month

• Spacious 1 bedroom
• On site laundry
• Cable ready
• 5 minutes from Ford plant

2400 S. Newburgh Rd., Westland

Funeral DIRECTORY

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FUNERAL HOME
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David C. Brown, Manager
Belleville **734-697-4500**

Crane FUNERAL HOME
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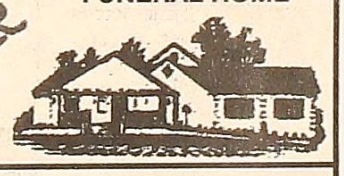
ROMULUS
734-941-9200
WILLIAM A. CRANE



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(734) 721-5600
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Harold Rediske II, Robert J. Gilbert,
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www.uhtfuneralhome.com

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The Penn Funeral Home
"The Funeral Home You Can Believe In"
JAMES H. PENN & SON
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3015 S. Inkster Rd.
Inkster, MI 48141

None
Trailer
Silver
None
Moped
Purple
JH2AF1718JK005368

Equipment

AUCTION

Bankruptcy Case 04-70673
Dun-Rite Mold Finishing
Mon. - Dec. 27- 10:30 AM
17684 Telegraph Rd.
Romulus, MI

2 Forklifts-10K Capacity; 35T & 25T Hyd. Presses; Air Compressors; Gantry Crane w/5T Hoist; Gas Welder; Shop Supplies; Office & Misc. Supplies. For complete list visit our website at www.centuryassets.com or call for brochure.

Century Asset Management

(231) 228-6667

87. Rooms For Rent

AAA Willow Acres Motel, low daily and weekly rates. Refrigerator, microwave, HBO. **Call 734-721-1220,** Tel-96 Inn **313-535-4100.** Fairlane in Novi **248-347-9999**

CANTON DAYS INN
Five Sunburst Rating!
Low Daily, Weekly, and Monthly rates.
Free deluxe breakfast
Guest Laundry
Microfridge in all rooms
All local calls free
40500 Michigan Avenue
Exit 22 off I-275

734-721-5200

88. Duplexes For Rent

Norwayne
1 and 3
Bedrooms Available,
$425-$700
1.5 months security

Call 734-817-8700

WESTLAND-NORWAYNE

Call for list of available 2 & 3 BEDROOM duplexes, and single family homes. Section 8 welcome. Lead safe units available. Professional full-time management.

Norplex Associates
734-722-6444
EHO

89. Apartments For Rent

1 Bed $550
Security $750
No pets.
734-482-5076 or
734 834-2877

WAYNE

Victorian Style
2 Bed flat
No pets. $650/month
plus security.

734-326-5025

Call 734-467-1900 to place your classified ad.

Wayne, MI
Spacious 1 Bedroom, Well maintained, heat, water, A/C included, no pets, $495.00

Call a Manager @
734-729-2108

or the owner @
734-878-0859

96. Houses For Rent

Available January 1, 2004
2 Bedroom duplex, full basement, central air. Includes appliances. First month's rent $740 plus $1000 security deposit moves you in. Located in Wayne, very close to Michigan Avenue, between Venoy and Merriman. Quiet neighborhood. Large yard. Interested, reply to: P.O. Box 535, Wayne, MI 48184. Include credit report, valid from last 6 months. Employer and previous landlord, name, address and phone #'s. 2 personal references.

INKSTER

2 Bedroom, basement, Westwood Schools, Section 8 Preferred
734-564-1810

INKSTER

3 Bedroom, basement, fenced, option to buy $625

INKSTER

Garage, basement, remodeled, section 8 ok $695

RENTAL

PROFESSIONALS

734-513-RENT

INKSTER

4 Bedroom, Central air, new carpet, $900/month, plus $500/security Section 8 ok.

313-617-4482
248-918-5926

Inkster

Clean 2 Bedroom, with very nice kitchen, and bath, clean carpet, large yard, senior citizen welcome, no pets

Call
734-729-0641
734-365-4889

ROMULUS

Remodeled, air, garage, pets negotiable $750

ROMULUS

Available now, garage, fenced yard $695

RENTAL

PROFESSIONALS

734-513-RENT

WAYNE

Garage, appliances, fenced for pets, option to buy $775

BELLEVILLE

3 Bedroom, garage, appliances, water paid $700

All Cities Available

RENTAL

PROFESSIONALS

734-513-RENT

Call 734-467-1900 to place your classified ad.

ROMULUS
Houses for rent
I-94 and Wayne Rd.
3 Bedroom, full basement, 2 car garage
$950-$1150/month

734-657-3267

WESTLAND

3 Bedroom, garage, option to buy $600

WESTLAND

3 Bedroom bungalow, shed, pets ok $725

Many others available

RENTAL

PROFESSIONALS

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106. Houses For Sale

STOP FORECLOSURE! Get Started Now -- 295+. Save your home! We've helped 1000s since 1992 – we can absolutely help you. Free consult 1-888-272-3328. Amazing results: www.DebtBug.com

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Excellent terms.
Bungalow, 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, beautifully landscaped.
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111. Out Of State Property

Hawaii Time Share!
Great Deal
Red in R.C.I.
2 Bedroom
$3000 plus 3 weeks to start.
248-358-9819

Call

734-467-1900

to place your

classified ad.

118. Freebies

I'll buy your house!
Cash or
make payments
-Bankruptcy
-Foreclosure
-Medical Problems
-No Equity
Call
Ann
734-968-5092

PLACE YOUR STATEWIDE AD HERE! $299 buys a 25-word classified ad offering over 1.6 million circulation and 4.2 million readers. Plus your ad will be placed on Michigan Press Association's website. Contact this newspaper for details.

REACH 3.5 MILLION Michigan readers with a 2 x 2 display ad for only $949 - Contact this newspaper for details.

To place your ad in the Business Spotlight Call 734-467-1900

Holiday Inn EXPRESS
www.hiexpress.com

3950 S. Lotz Rd
Canton, MI, 48188
Call today for reservations 734-721-5500
A Jacuzzi Room for 2 and a Movie At Emagine of Canton
$129.00 a night plus tax.
OR A 2 Queen Bed Room and *up to* 4 tickets to Emagine
$115.00 a night plus tax.

Certain Black Out Dates Apply
Cash payment requires $150.00 deposit
(Expires 5-31-05)

NOW SHOWING
Put Your Business in the Spotlight
Get Your Message Out To The Communities EVERY WEEK
For Information Call
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Located in the Seven Star Plaza
Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9:30-7:30

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No Equity, Foreclosure, No Problem
Solve your problem FAST!
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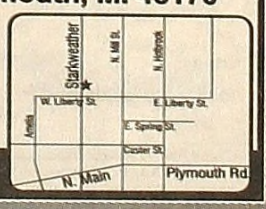
Fax: 734-453-0633
www.heidisflowers.com · e-mail: heide@heidisflowers.com
VISIT OUR NEW LOCATION



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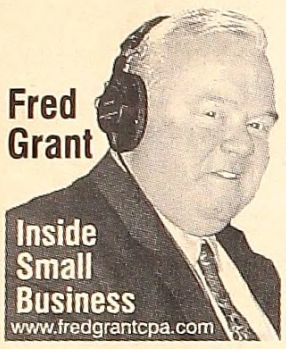
1 (734) 942-7589

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Will the IRS call your sideline business a hobby?



It can be great fun to take a hobby you're passionate about, and use it to generate income. But if you plan to take tax deductions for your hobby expenses, be aware that the IRS has strict rules about business deductions. Run afoul of these rules, and you may end up owing the IRS more than just your hobby income.

Most importantly, you should be able to show that you're running your business with a genuine "profit motive." This doesn't mean that you actually need to make a profit, but you should be able to document your intent to generate a net income.

You can document this profit motive in several ways. First, you should run your business as a business. For example, keep proper books and records; maintain appropriate licenses; secure space in the business pages of the phone book; even keep a business journal.

Second, it's a good idea to develop and maintain an up-to-date business plan. This plan could include projections of future income and expenses, marketing strategies, personnel policies, and so forth. The idea is to show the IRS that you plan to grow your business.

Third, keep your business and personal funds separate. Don't pay for Johnny's bicycle from your business account; don't deposit sales income into your personal account.

Fourth, go to work regularly. If you attend your business on a frequent basis, the IRS will see that you're not just playing at it. Of course, you need to document - with time cards, a work log, or some other record - that you actually worked on certain days. Just telling the IRS auditor that you worked on such-and-such a day won't cut it.

Finally, talk to your accountant or financial advisor to make sure you're maintaining adequate documentation and following the proper rules.

For more information or assistance, give us a call.

Listen to Fred Grant's radio show "Inside Small Business" every weekend on or call Fred at 734-455-1040

NEWS/TALK WJR abc AM 760 Detroit, MI

When to Sell Real Estate

Curt Whipple
C. Curtis and Associates, Inc.

Many individuals have done well by investing in real estate over the years. Some of their investments have been in vacant land and others in rental properties. But there often comes a point in time when real estate, particularly residential rentals, is too demanding an investment compared to other assets such as stocks and bonds. So what is the best way to transfer the responsibilities of managing or even totally getting the asset out of your portfolio?

With income properties, you could just hire a property manager. But sometimes this isn't cost efficient or perhaps you've had enough and just want out.

There are several ways to remove real estate from your portfolio and perhaps increase your income at the same time.

- An outright sale is the simplest. Tax consequences, however, can take up to 20% of your long-term gains (plus State tax plus recapture tax if it applies).
- An installment sale can ease the tax bite, but you will have to wait longer to get your money (yet pay all the tax today).
- A 1031 exchange to a less demanding or higher income producing property could simplify your life and defer income taxes. For example, selling your apartment building and using the equity to buy a McDonald's location results in less demanding property as the commercial tenant usually takes care of all property responsibilities.
- If you also want to help a charity, you could put the property into a charitable remainder trust that would sell the real estate without paying capital gains tax (and you an income as long as you live and even stretched to the next generation).
- You could use a "private annuity" if you desire to transfer the property to heirs and want to immediately remove it from your estate.

Another alternative would be to get a new mortgage to free up cash that you could put in other investments to further portfolio diversification. Before you make any changes though, you might want to take some factors into consideration. For instance, what does your family think of this? Do your children expect to get or stay involved with the real estate? And supposed your married. Would your spouse have the ability or even want to take care of real estate if you died? If not, you might end up leaving him or her with a bundle of problems and responsibilities.

Coming up with the appropriate strategy to remove real estate from your portfolio needs to be approached with a coordinated effort that addresses your financial, family, legal, and tax situation.

C. Curtis and Associates, Inc.
(734) 844-3400

Privacy Policies and Websites Protecting Your Customer's Confidential Information

Jill Goldstein
Attorney & Counselor at Law

Every business that receives information about customers through their website needs a privacy policy. California recently enacted a law requiring a commercial website that collects "personally identifiable information" from California residents to post a privacy policy. Since the web is not geographically specific, all commercial websites are potentially affected. Other states likely will follow. Here are important issues to consider when forming privacy policies.

> "Consider third parties with which your site is affiliated. Confirm that they are not using information obtained from your website. Beware of cookies, spyware, and other pitfalls."

First, is the policy appropriate for your website? Many businesses have "form" policies that may not reflect the actual business conducted on the website. This could result in omissions of required elements, or overbroad policies that may not be appropriate. Ensure that all applicable local and federal laws are followed.

Consider third parties with which your site is affiliated. Confirm that they are not using information obtained from your website. Beware of cookies, spyware, and other pitfalls.

A privacy policy will help protect the rights of your customers and the security and reputation of your business. Follow the terms of your privacy policy flawlessly. If policy and practice conflict, costly lawsuits and negative publicity may arise. Consulting with an attorney before implementing a policy is highly recommended.

Covering Your Assets Part III

Nelson Wilson
AVP-Senior Loan Officer
The West Team/Chase Home Finance

Recently we discussed documenting asset accounts for demand type and investment accounts as sources for funds for purchasing your home. Another source of down payment funds that requires documentation is 'gift' money.

Some borrowers, often first time homebuyers, need help coming up with their down payment. Family members are often the source of this assistance. Parents, grandparents, brother, sisters, etc., are acceptable. Non-family members are not usually acceptable.

> "Some borrowers, often first time homebuyers, need help coming up with their down payment. Family members are often the source of this assistance."

Lenders require this down payment assistance to come in the form of a 'gift'; meaning, that it is given without the expectation of repayment. Rarely will a lender allow down payment to be borrowed.

The lender will want this documented with a 'gift letter', stating the relationship between the parties, the address of the property purchased, the amount of the gift, and sometimes the source of the funds for the gift. This letter will also state the funds are a gift and that there is no repayment. The letter will have to be signed by all parties.

The donor may be required to provide bank statements verifying their ability to make the gift. Remember to copy the check and keep the deposit receipt.

Nelson Wilson
AVP-Senior Loan Officer

Make the right move to finding your dream home.

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Nelson Wilson
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800-291-1761 *Voice Mail*
The West Team

CHASE

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Results of the mortgage affordability estimate are guidelines; the estimate is not an application for credit and results do not guarantee loan approval or denial. A fee for preapproval may be applied. Preapproval is not a commitment under New Jersey law. For down payments of less that 20%, Mortgage Insurance(MI) is required and MI charges apply. Home Equity Loans/Lines are not available in all states. Home Equity Loans/Lines are offered through JPMorgan Chase Bank in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Texas and in other geographical area and Texas through Chase Manhattan Bank USE, N.A. ("Chase USA") with headquarters in Newark, Delaware. All loans are subject to credit and property approval. Program terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Not all products are available in all states or for all loan amounts. Other restrictions and limitations apply. All loans offered through Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation ("CMMC"). Corporate headquaters: 343 Thornall Street, Edison, New Jersey 08837; (732) 205-0600. ©2004 J.P.Morgan Chase & Co. All rights reserved.

Happy Holidays!!

FROM:

The West Team

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The West Team
at Chase Home Finance,

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at Chase Home Finance first...
because home ownership matters.

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CHASE

For down payments of less than 20% mortgage insurance (MI) is required and MI charges apply. Home Equity Loans/Lines are not available in all states. Home Equity Loans/Lines are offered through JPMorgan Chase Bank in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Texas and in other geographic areas through Chase Manhattan Bank USA, NA (Chase USA) with headquarters in Newark, NJ. All loans are subject to credit and property approval. Programs terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Not all products are available in all states or for all loan amounts. Other restrictions and limitations apply. All loans offered through Chase Home Finance. Corporate headquarters: 343 Thornall Street, Edison, New Jersey 08837; (732) 205-0600. c J.P.Morgan Chase & Co. All rights reserved.